THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Before the Day



Bernard Levin before *The Day After*

Tropical...
Forever England in Jamaica

...aisles
The joys of singing in a choir

Playing...
100 choices for children's presents

...the game
Stuart Jones analyses the cup draws in Europe

Russia puts a stop to Start

The Soviet Union refused to set a date for the resumption of the strategic arms reduction talks in Geneva. The deployment of US missiles in Europe was given as the reason for the suspension of the negotiations.

Nato meeting, page 6

Opec agrees to hold oil price

Opec has agreed to continue the present price and production agreement and will confirm today in Geneva that its prices should remain unchanged for at least 12 months. The decision will remove much of the uncertainty from world financial markets

Earlier report, page 17

Lords TV vote

The House of Lords has carried by 74 votes to 24 a motion for the experimental televising of its proceedings

Parliament, page 4

It's Carrington

Nato Foreign Ministers yesterday unanimously appointed Lord Carrington to succeed Dr Joseph Luns of The Netherlands as Secretary-General. He takes over next June.

Leading article, page 15

Britons missing

Two British businessmen have disappeared from their Paris hotels, the British Embassy there confirmed. Both were last seen on December 1 Page 6

New year curb

Trafalgar Square's fountains are to be drained and boarded up on New Year's Eve to prevent a repetition of last year's crush, which killed two women Page 3

Plane search

The RAF joined coastguards last night in searching for an aircraft carrying eight passengers from Liverpool which went out of radio contact shortly before it was due at Stornoway, Hebrides

Drug profits cut

Cuts in the profits that drug companies make from the health service and in the amount spent on advertising have been announced by the Government Page 2

Rapist's choice

One of three men convicted of rape in the United States and told by a judge to choose between 30 years in prison and castration said he would prefer to be castrated Page 8

Bowling change

A proposal requiring counties to bowl a minimum of 117 overs in a full day's championship cricket will be put to the TCCB at Lord's on Tuesday Page 22

Syria seeks Soviet troops pledge as warning to Reagan

From Robert Fisk, Damascus

Syria has asked the Soviet Union to revise their strategic cooperation agreement so that Soviet ground troops could be sent to Damascus if the Syrian Army has to withstand a big military assault in Lebanon.

Until now it has been generally assumed that the Russians would intervene militarily only if Syrian sovereign territory were attacked, but officials in Damascus are making no secret that they would like to revise the terms of the pact, in the words of a government spokesman, "to meet the imbalance resulting from the Israeli-American strategic agreement".

Syria's request to Moscow is intended as a warning to President Reagan, whose new cooperation agreement with Israel is viewed with the gravest concern in Damascus. Syria's fear that it may face a joint US-Israeli attack is genuinely felt, despite President Reagan's insistence that the Americans are not looking for a battle with Syria.

There are up to 6,000 Soviet military personnel in Syria. Most of them are advisers and the remainder constitute the crews for the Sam 5 ground-to-air missile batteries installed at three sites early this year.

Despite claims to the contrary in Washington, there are no Soviet combat troops in Syria. Indeed, the Russians have hitherto preferred not to comtemplate any military actions which might suck them into the Lebanese quagmire. A few Soviet radar personnel have crossed occasionally into Lebanon to calibrate equipment on the Syrians' Sam 6 rockets, but that appears to have been the extent of their involvement.

In an interview with *The Times* yesterday, however, Mr Muhammad Haidar, head of the foreign relations committee of the ruling Baath Party's National Command, said that his Government had "no doubt at all that, if Syria is attacked, the Soviet Union will immediately take our side both politically and militarily".

When I asked Mr Haidar if Damascus now wanted Soviet troops to come to Syria if the Syrian Army was attacked in Lebanon, he replied: "It makes no difference if Syrian forces are attacked in Lebanon or in Syria – we are allied to the Soviet Union. Between two allied forces, the differentiation you mention makes no difference."

Moscow may prefer to leave things as they stand with Damascus, and it is important to realize that the Syrians do not intend to request the presence of Soviet troops on their soil before any military attack should take place.

They are following their usual practice of steadily increasing the stakes in the Middle East, in the hope of making their potential enemies think twice about military adventures. Syria also likes to publicize its independence from the Soviet Union and would probably seek direct Russian assistance only as a last resort.

Nevertheless, if they can include such support in the event of fighting in Lebanon, then the Syrians will have substantially increased the risk of a superpower conrontation, as they believe the United States has done by forging a strategic agreement with Israel.

The daily fighting in which US Marines are involved in Beirut airport came under sustained rocket, mortar and small-arms rifle again yesterday morning and fought off their

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Pressure mounts in Israel to kill or capture Arafat

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The Israeli threat to the evacuation of Mr Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization from Tripoli was intensified yesterday when Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, announced that suggestions he should be killed or captured were now under consideration by his Government.

Strict military censorship is being employed to prevent reporters discussing the military and naval options open to the Israelis. The anti-Arafat atmosphere has been encouraged by a number of powerful cartoons in the local press, one showing him riding on the charred shell of the Israeli bus wrecked in Tuesday's PLO bomb jubilantly waving the United Nations flag.

Speaking yesterday after visiting the survivors in hospital, Mr Shamir was asked for his response to the call from Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Defence Minister, for the "physical liquidation" of Mr Arafat. "We are considering all the ways of action", he replied.

He bitterly attacked the evacuation plan due to get under way in the next 48 hours. "I think it is the subject for the most extreme condemnation of the UN, whose purpose is to safeguard peace and which is giving its protection to such a murderous organization which claims responsibility for this crime", he said.

Ministers have denied that the Cabinet agreed to allow Mr Arafat safe passage as part of last month's prisoner exchange with the PLO. Asked if there had been a decision not to block his departure, Mr David Levy, the deputy Prime Minister, said yesterday: "I did not say there had been a decision; nor can I give even a hint that there has been a decision to the contrary. There are matters for which the best response is silence."

Meanwhile, the bus attack has prompted outspoken condemnation of a PLO terrorist action by radical Palestinian leaders from the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.

Their unexpected move was hailed by Mr Shamir as a "positive trend" and by the opposition Labour Party as possibly the first sign of a wish for coexistence by the West Bank Arabs.

The leaders who signed the statement deploring the attack were Mr Karim Khalef, deposed Mayor of Ramallah who was maimed in the 1980 car bomb attack unofficially blamed on Jewish extremists; Mr Mustapha Natche; deposed Mayor of Hebron; Mr Anwar Nusseibeh, chairman of the East Jerusalem Electric Company, and the publisher and editor of the pro-PLO Arabic language daily *Al Fajr*.

● **NEW YORK:** An Israeli request to stop the UN flag being flown on ships evacuating the PLO from Tripoli has been denied by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretaru general (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes).

The Queen at yesterday's opening of Britain's biggest automated letter sorting office, at Nine Elms, south-west London. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

America to lift Argentine arms embargo

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Despite British misgivings, the Reagan Administration yesterday announced it was taking the necessary legal steps to end the five-year ban on US arms sales to Argentina.

The State Department said President Reagan would certify to Congress tomorrow that Argentina has made "dramatic progress" in human rights in the past year and a half and therefore the arms embargo imposed in 1978 could be lifted.

The certification has been deliberatedly timed to coincide with the inauguration of President Raul Alfonsin in Buenos Aires. Vice-President George Bush is to attend the inauguration ceremony of the democratically elected President.

Announcing the move, a State Department spokesman went out of his way to emphasize that certification would only make Argentina eligible to purchase American arms and that requests would be "examined on a case by case basis".

He also emphasized that "no arms transfers are contemplated which would increase the prospect of renewed conflict" in the Falklands.

The terms in which yesterday's announcement was couched went some way to allay British fears about a resumption of arms sales to Argentina, which attacked the Falkland islands last year.

British objections to US arms sales had been frequently voiced during the past year, most particularly by Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

During a meeting with President Reagan in Wshington last September the British Prime Minister pointed out that Argentina has still not made a formal declaration od cessation of hostilities after its defeat in the Falklands war.

President Reagan gave strong support to Mrs Thatcher during the Falklands conflict, thereby seriously damaging US relations with Latin America. Since then the US has been urging both sides to seek a negotiated settlement.

British diplomats reacted cautiously to yesterday's announcement and expressed the hope that any arms sales would only involve spare parts and defensive equipment.

They recalled that last month Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, said the US would not provide sophisticated equipment which could be used to attempt a new invasion of the Falkland islands.

The State Department spokesman himself pointed out that the US has traditionally never been a major supplier of arms to Argentina.

The two biggest suppliers, France and West Germany, have already resumed their sales.

British diplomats said the US had kept Britain fully informed ahead of yesterday's announcement. Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, has been holding talks with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the British Foreign Secretary, during his current

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British Government kept in picture

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

British ministers were wholly untrobled last night by the expected news that Argentina had been re-certified as a potential purchaser of United States arms.

But because they are aware of public anxiety about the Falklands, and more generally about the present state of relations betweeen Washington and London, they went out of their way to emphasize that in this area at least the Adminstration had been exemplary in consulting them.

A lengthy statement from Downing Street pointed out that re-certification did not mean that arms sales were either in the pipeline or planned in any way, and was not equivalent to arms sales.

● **BRUSSELS:** Britain would "obviously express concern" to the US if the American administration were to sell any weapons to Argentina which could be used in a war against the Falkland Islands, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary said yesterday (Ian Murray reports).

But he emphasized that the US was still a long way from making any decision about actually selling weapons to the new Argentine Government.

He said that the Administration had to review its relations with Argentina in the light of the human rights situation in that country and see whether or not it could properly continue to impose a ban on arms sales there on grounds that human rights were not being observed.

There was a "wide gap" between agreeing certification which would allow arms to be sold and actually reaching any agreement on arms sales themselves.

● **CHILEAN DOUBTS:** A number of other Latin American countries will have misgivings over the US decision, not the least among them being Chile which has a long-standing dispute with Buenos Aires over islands in the Beagle channel. (Henry Stanhope writes).

Jailed fans home by Christmas

Luxembourg (Reuter) – The 13 English football fans still held in jails here will be home by Christmas, despite being sentenced yesterday to between one and four months in prison. The chief government spokesman, Mr André Claude, said: "Justice must be seen to be done, but basically we want to get them out of Luxembourg."

Some England supporters rampaged through the city centre after last month's Luxembourg-England match, in what police said was the worst outbreak of football hooliganism in the Grand Duchy's history.

Most of them will serve only a token week or 10 days of their jail terms, for offences ranging from shoplifting to assault. The Government is also prepared to waive fines ranging from £50 to £300 in its haste to be done with the fans.

One fan's mother protested at the harshness of the penalties. "They would never have been given such strict sentences in England for such trifles," she said.



Thatcher condemns US policy

By Our Political Editor

Two hours before meeting the United States Treasury Secretary, Mr Donald Regan, for talks at 10 Downing Street, the Prime Minister roundly condemned Washington's economic management in the Commons, and praised the British Government's record by comparison.

Mrs Thatcher appeared to be provoked by Mr Peter Tapsell, Conservative MP for Lindsey East, who specializes in loaded questions which seem calculated to rouse her.

Mr Tapsell a partner in a City stockbroker firm with extensive international connexions, invited her when she met Mr Regan to discuss why economic policies which could be described as neo-Keynesian seemed to have brought such beneficial effects so far to the United States.

It may have been the words "so far" which gave Mrs Thatcher her cue. Her tone may have been coloured by contempt for latter-day followers of Keynes, or by exasperation at other recent actions of the Americans.

She dismissed the Treasury Secretary everything he represented with ringing disdain. The United States budget deficit, she said, was causing big interest rates which were extremely damaging to Britain and other European countries.

The United States also had a fantastic balance of trade deficit

To cheers from Conservatives, and ironic cheers from Labour, she concluded more emphatically than ever: "I would rather be in our position, which is sustainable, than in theirs, which I believe will cause great trouble in 12 months".

Parliament, page 4
Kenneth Fleet, page 17

NGA may call all-out strike

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Leaders of the National Graphical Association are considering an all-out strike which would halt publication of national and local newspapers if peace talks fail to resolve the union's closed-shop dispute with Mr Selim ("Eddie") Shah's Messenger Group.

The NGA national council has been called into emergency session in Bedford tomorrow to determine the union's next step if negotiations with Mr Shah collapse.

Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the 133,000-strong craft print union, said last night after talks with the TUC general secretary, Mr Len Murray, that the dispute "could spread into every area of the industry".

This could happen if peace moves by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) fail to yield a settlement or if Mr Shah breaks off the talks.

Officials of the NGA went to the London headquarters of Acas last night for a fourth successive night of negotiations conducted at arm's length through conciliators.

They went into the peace process deeply pessimistic about the prospect of a deal to end the 23-week-old conflict with the Stockport based Messenger Group over NGA claims for a closed shop and the reinstatement of six dismissed print workers.

The Times understands that the plans have been drawn up for a national strike in the printing and newspaper industry as the NGA's "final fling" of opposition to the operation of the Government's new labour laws.

Its opposition has already cost it £150,000 in fines for contempt of court orders not to interfere with the production of Mr Shah's newspapers.

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Last phone strikers sent back to work

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Post Office Engineering Union last night called off the final phase of its industrial action against government plans to sell off British Telecom and effectively signalled defeat in its battle to halt the sale.

A special meeting of the union's executive have decided to send back to work 1,400 telephone engineers in the international exchanges in London who have been on strike for two months in a dispute which last month threatened to thrust the union into direct conflict with the Government's labour laws.

The union backed down from that confrotation and since its delegate conference last month has decided to send back to work all engineers who had been either on strike or locked out in the campaign of industrial action.

Mr Bryan Stanley, the union's general secretary, said last night: "The union now has a period to examine and rebuild its resources ready for the many battles we will have to fight in the new year."

In spite of Mr Stanley's brave words, the union, which has a left-dominated executive, has decided that the cost of the industrial action was prohibitive when compared with the results. It was clear to yesterday's meeting that the action has had a minimal effect on the highly automated exchanges selected as targets.

The campaign, during which the union paid normal wages to the 2,500 strikers, cost more than £2.5m and the union had by the start of this week already used an interest-free £500,000 loan from the Union of Communication Workers.

The union's conference decided last month not defy recent labour legislation and the Government will view the union decision as a victory in its programme to reduce the size and influence of the public sector.

Drink-drive loophole is blocked

By John Witherow

A potential loophole in the law which could have cleared thousands of motorists facing drink-drive charges and forced the police to revise their latest breath testing machines was blocked in the High Court yesterday.

The divisional court overturned a finding by magistrates in Basingstoke, Hampshire, that the print-out from a Lion Intoximeter 3000 machine was not admissible in drink-driving cases.

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, ruled that the magistrates had been wrong to clear Mr Russell Marlow, aged 26, an engineer, of driving with excess alcohol. The magistrates' court decided that the print-out, which had shown Mr Marlow to have been three times over the legal limit, was inadmissible as a statement because it was not intelligible to the average person.



Mr Russell Marlow: "Disappointed".

The case was sent back to the magistrates with a direction to continue the hearing, which had been stopped when the bench decided Mr Marlow had no case to answer.

Mr Michael Dineen, counsel for Mr Marlow, said he would appeal to the House of Lords if the divisional court decided that the matter was of sufficient public importance.

The Hampshire police appeal against the magistrates' ruling has led to thousands of drink-drive cases being adjourned and an increase in the number of motorists pleading not guilty. Many of these cases will now be heard and, no doubt, pleas will be changed.

The High Court ruling will be particularly welcomed by the police as they launch their Christmas campaigns against drinking and driving.

The Royal Automobile Club said it was not surprised by the decision but was concerned over the accuracy of the Intoximeters, of which 645 have been distributed to 39 police forces since last May.

Lord Lane said that Mr Marlow, of Britten Road, Basingstoke, had been stopped while driving his car on May 11 this year. A breath test on the Intoximeter showed a reading of 111 microgrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath, almost three times the legal limit of 35 microgrammes.

At a hearing in September, the magistrates agreed with Mr Marlow's counsel that the print-out was inadmissible because it was not a statement under the Transport Act, 1981.

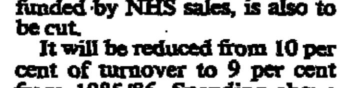
However, Lord Lane said the magistrates should have looked at the whole print-out slip, which included an explanation of the coded figures. "We are dealing with the real world and not a fanciful world", he told the court. "In my judgment it is abundantly clear to anyone in his senses precisely what the document meant. Taken as a whole it is planly intelligible."

Mr Marlow said afterwards that he was disappointed and claimed that the Intoximeter reading was wildly inaccurate because he had drunk hardly any alcohol.

Law Report, page 10

Government cuts drug firms profits in £100m NHS savings package

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent



The Government announced yesterday cuts in the profits drug companies can make from the National Health Service and reductions in permissible spending on advertising and promotion.

They will produce savings of more than £100m a year on the NHS drugs bill, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, said.

The cuts were condemned as unnecessarily harsh by the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry, which said that they were likely to damage the industry's ability to produce new products.

But Mr Michael Meacher, labour's spokesman on heath said that they were inadequate response, and still left the companies with a "a license to print money".

Under the package announced by Mr Clarke the target-rate of profit companies are allowed to make will be cut from 25 to 21 per cent from April 1, saving £40m on the total bill in England of £1,250m.

Also, the "grey area" by which companies are allowed to make higher profits of up to 10 per cent will be reduced.

Drug companies' spending on promotion, which is now about £180m a year and largely funded by NHS sales, is also to be cut.

It will be reduced from 10 per cent of turnover to 9 per cent from 1985/86. Spending above that level will have to be paid back – in effect a fine on promotional overspending.

When fully implemented that should cut promotional expenditure by 25 per cent, Mr Clarke said.

"In a full year the measures will produce savings on the NHS drugs bill rising on present estimates from £65m in 1984/5 to well over £100m in later years.

"This compares with the industry's total profits from sales in the UK in 1983 of an estimated £200m. The changes will mean that the price freeze on drugs introduced in August as part of the £25m savings agreed then will continue, with few exceptions, through 1984/5 and beyond."

The Government has decided against allowing pharmacists to substitute cheaper, unbranded drugs for brand name products when dispensing prescriptions, unless the family doctor specifies so. Such a move was recommended in the Greenfield Report published earlier this year, which it has been estimated could save another £25m to £30m.

Mr Clarke said such a measure would lead to divisions in responsibility for the treatment between family doctors and pharmacists and raised "serious practical problems".

Mr Meacher described the decision as owing more "to the arm twisting of the drug companies than to the concern at the general practitioners behind who Mr Clarke seeks to hide".

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry said that the cuts were "unnecessarily harsh and against the long-term interests of the UK".

Some Multinational drug companies were likely to reconsider investing in Britain, it said, "The cuts are likely to damage seriously the imnnovative and export capacity if the industry, currently producing a balance of payments surplus of £600m per annum, and one of the world leaders in pharmaceautical research."

Staff vote of no confidence at Sellafield

The 900 engineering workers at the Sellafield (formerly Windscale) Nuclear Fuels in Cumbria have passed a vote of no confidence in the management because of the contamination incidents in which radioactive material was discharged into the Irish Sea.

Mr Leo Goldsworthy, district organizer for the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, confirmed yesterday that a mass meeting of union members earlier this week had voted to condemn the way in which the company had kept workers informed about developments.

No further industrial action is planned by the engineering workers, who complained that they read about the incidents in the press almost at the same time as they were being told about them by the company.

A delegation of union members from Sellafield is to meet Dr John Cunningham, Labour MP for Copeland and Labour spokesman on the environment, today.

A spokesman for the engineering workers said that the latest incident had been so serious that it required assurances in the best interests of the nuclear industry and the public. "We are very unhappy over the management's handling of this business", he said.

British Nuclear Fuels refused to comment on the vote because it was an internal industrial relations matter.

● Mr Wedgwood Benn claimed at the Sizewell B inquiry yesterday that "every British nuclear power station has become a nuclear bomb factory for the United States".

Mr Benn, a former energy minister, was giving evidence on day 150 of the hearing at the Snape Maltings in Suffolk into the Central Electricity Generating Board's proposal to build an American-style pressurized water reactor (PWR). He suggested that military requirments coloured the board's plans.

"One of the dominant factors which explains the policy of the board and the Atomic Energy Authority in pressing for the PWR is that there are strong military reasons for doing so and the economic and energy arguments are a cover", he said.

The board's leading counsel, Lord Silsoe QC, tried repeatedly but unsuccessfully to persuade Mr Benn to withdraw this statement.

Mr Benn said that he was not criticizing individuals. "In military areas one cannot rely on the truth being told because those who speak are not always properly informed", he said.

At the heart of Mr Benn's claim was his fear that plutonium produced from spent nuclear fuel, if of a suitably high grade, can be used in nuclear weapons manufacture.



Royal portrait: A detail from Bryan Organ's study of the Duke of Edinburgh which was unveiled at the National Portrait Gallery in London yesterday. Commissioned by the gallery, the portrait, which is acrylic on canvas, is the first painting of the Duke to join a national collection.

Two views of 'The Day After'

A gruesome portrait of nuclear disaster

By David Hewson

The film *The Day After*, which will be shown on independent television at 9.30 pm tomorrow, plots the fictional aftermath of a nuclear catastrophe in a small town in Kansas.

ABC, the American makers, say the film is apolitical, and based on scientific fact.

The prelude to the dropping of the bombs on Kansas City, 36 miles from Lawrence, where the drama was filmed, takes about a third of the running time.

It depicts a worsening international situation in which West Berlin is blockaded. War breaks out in Europe and three tactical nuclear weapons are exploded over advancing Soviet troops. Kansas City was chosen as the focus for the film because it is in the centre of the United States and the presence of missile silos make it a prime target.

Citizens are advised to go to municipal shelters, and a panic for food and supplies develops. The launch of the American missiles is followed by a four-minute sequence showing the mushroom clouds of the attacking Soviet warheads.

The holocaust shatters the fabric of the town's society, leading to looting and chaos in which firing squads execute thieves without trial. The rest of the drama concerns the attempts of a doctor, played by Jason Robards, to help stricken people before he falls victim to radiation sickness.

The makers say that it was thoroughly researched to make the result as accurate as possible. Most of the effects in the holocaust sequence, such as the launching of the American Minuteman missiles and the mushrooming nuclear explosions, come from stock film of the real event skilfully spliced into the dramatic narrative.

Make-up artists studied research on the victims of Nagasaki and Hiroshima to create the often gruesome appearance of the cast. Mr Michael Westmore explained: "We found that radiation works in stages. People would at first be badly burnt. Then, as time goes on, they begin to have other frightening things happen including severe internal bleeding and hair loss. We used a chemical called titanium tetrachloride to show the effects of people's bodies smoking. It went way beyond a little blood being shown. It was the most disturbing thing I have ever been involved with."

The makers have advised parents not to allow children to watch the film on their own because of its disturbing scenes.

The Ministry of Defence and Yorkshire Television are still negotiating whether Mr Heseltine will join the discussion programme after the showing of the film.

Yorkshire Television said that so far only Mr Robert McNamara, the former United States Secretary of State, had confirmed that he would take part in the discussion.

Mr Heseltine has accepted an invitation from TV-am to appear on Sunday to discuss the film with David Frost.

● Lady Olga Maitland, founder of Women and Families for Defence, is to attempt to counter the effects of showing of *The Day After* and a mass demonstration at Greenham Common by delivering a personal message of support to Wing Commander M. J. Marsh, the RAF commander at the base, on Sunday (Pat Healy writes).

A nine-day wonder like soap opera

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

The silence is profound. Two weeks ago there was national controversy in the United States as politicians, pundits, lobbyists and the public had their shout about *The Day After*.

While the hullaballoo raged, newspapers and television were full of comment about the programme. Then, quite suddenly, it went away . . . a nine-day wonder.

For several days before the programme was shown – a hundred million Americans watched it – there was a phenomenal surge of publicity.

Americans were given a warning that the film would be harrowing; telephone hotlines were set up to comfort the distressed; parents were told of the dangers of allowing children to watch; people arranged to see it in groups. It was even reported that the television company president had wept at the preview.

The White House grew jittery, fearing that emotional reaction could damage President Reagan, his defence policies and his chances of reelection.

In the event, the film was bathetic. It has been criticized as a mere horror film heavily promoted to improve the ratings and income of the television company.

But for all its soap opera quality *The Day After* had a considerable impact, partly because of the publicity build-up, which meant that by the time the film was shown the country was agog.

Many Americans felt the quality of the film was beside the point. What they thought important was that for the first time the nuclear issue was brought home to most people, that holocaust was put in terms they could understand: the destruction of a town with which they could all identify.

A man in Kansas said that the film gave Americans an inkling of how people feel in Europe. Many Americans feel that trouble spots are far across the sea, and many of them have never seen the sea.

Public consciousness of the nuclear issue was raised. A debate went on in public and private forums and in schools. Nuclear-freeze and disarmament groups latched on to the programme to press home their message. And by dialling 800-Nuclear on the telephone people could get a nuclear information kit. More than 50,000 did.

The White House responded to the film by putting Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, on television immediately afterwards. He was meant to be a calming voice of reason, by. some people remarked that they found him more frightening than the film . . . something Mr Heseltine might consider.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 150; Cyprus 650 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 58; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $6.50; Spain Pes 150; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.50; Yugoslavia Din 100

Ford unions settle for 7.5%

Union leaders representing 44,500 Ford workers settled yesterday for a 7.5 per cent pay offer. Mr Ron Todd, the transport union national officer, said after meeting the management in London: "They have not been prepared to move any further, so we are now winding up negotiations."

The agreement comes after a split vote among Ford workers on a union recommendation to reject the offer and take Industrial action from January 3.

Ford said that the pay rise would be between £9.56 and £12.35.

At Halewood, north Merseyside, Ford had to lay off 2,400 production workers from the assembly plant and paintshop 75 minutes before the day shift ended yesterday after six men walked out over a discipline dispute. The workers are expected to report back for duty this morning.

● Union leaders representing almost a million local authority manual workers, who were told by employers yesterday that they could not finance "even the most marginal" pay increase, have agreed to joint studies to find ways of funding pay rises.

NGA may call a nationwide strike

Continued from page 1

The union is due to reappear before the High Court in Manchester this morning to answer a further complaint from Mr Shah relating to last week's violent scenes on the printing works picket line at Winwick Quay, Warrington, which was not dealt with a week ago because both sides agreed to a week-long truce to allow peace talks to begin.

Mr Wade said last night: "If Mr Shah is not prepared to agree to defer legal action, that clearly implies he has accepted that the negotiations have reached deadlock.

"The result of that deadlock is that the national council of the NGA is meeting on Saturday and they will have to decide what further action they are going to take to prosecute the dispute.

"It might mean it could spread to all areas of the print industry."

This is regarded by NGA leaders as the only card left to play in the dispute that has already seen mass picketing and pressure on advertisers to compel Mr Shah to reemploy the six men dismissed several months ago.

Only the NGA national council could issue a nationwide strike call and before any stoppage took place the TUC – which is anxious to avoid all-out conflict with the Government's labour laws – would seek to use its good offices to prevent the newspapers from going off the streets.

Mr Wade and other officials of the NGA spent two hours at the TUC last night with Mr Murray, reporting on the gloomy prospects for a negotiated settlement of their dispute with Mr Shah.

Mr Wade said as he left Congress House that the interpretation that the peace talks were not going well was "a reasonable assessment".

The discussions were very complex and fraught.

"That is not to say I am not hopeful we can reach a conclusion. I hope we can reach a settlement of the outstanding issues. Failing that, I hope we will have an agreement to continue the talks over the weekend", Mr Wade said.

Heart-lung man

Lars Ljungberg, aged 32, Britain's first combined heart and lung transplant patient continued to recover at Hatfield Hospital, west London, last night. He remains weak and is still being fed on a drip.

Inquest on banker to be public

By John Witherow

The inquest into the death of Mr Dennis Skinner, the British banker who died in a mysteious fall in Moscow after telling diplomats that the KGB was about to frame him, will now he held in public.

Last month the south London coroner, Dr Mary McHugh, announced after considerable delay that the inquest would be held in secret on December 20. Yesterday she issued a statement saying it would be in public

Her earlier decision caused some surprise because the Foreign Office had said it saw no reason for the inquest to be held in secret. *The Observer* newspaper had also taken out a High Court injunction to prevent the secret hearing.

Dr McHugh, said last night that she had changed her mind "because the establishment feels it would be more in their interests if it was held in public".

Arrests at funeral of INLA man

From Richard Ford
Belfast

Two men were arrested yesterday in violent scuffles by the coffin of an Irish National Liberation Army terrorist when the police moved in to prevent a paramilitary funeral.

A strong police and army presence surrounded the home on the Bawnmore estate in north Belfast of Joseph Craven, aged 27, who was shot by the Protestant Action Force. At one stage his family refused to let the coffin leave the house until the police withdrew.

After negotiations with a priest the coffin was carried to a waiting hearse. It was draped with the Irish tricolour and Starry Plough, flag of the Irish Republican Socialist Party. The dead man's black gloves and belt, which were on top, were removed by a senior police officer.

The family of the dead man had not wanted a paramilitary funeral

Bomb charge man remanded

A Belfast man charged in connexion with the IRA bombings in London in 1981 was remended in custody by Marylebone magistrates yesterday to appear at Lambeth Magistrates' Court in London on December 15.

Thomas Quigley, aged 28, a labourer from Belfast, appeared in court on crutches due to an ankle injury before his arrest last Friday. He was charged with conspiring with others in the United Kingdom to cause explosions.

Safety at naval base criticized

The Government was asked yesterday to set up an independent watchdog committee to monitor-safety at the Royal Nav'ys armament depot at Coulport on the Clyde, which is to be the base for Britain's *Trident* missiles.Strathclyde Region's policy and resources committee made the call after an independent report into the siting of Trident attacked the Ministry of Defence for failure to provide adequate assurances on safety procedures.

3 charged with £26m theft

Three men were remanded in police custody yesterday by Feltham Magistrates' Court, west London, charged with the theft of £26m in gold bars from a Brinks-Mat warehouse near Heathrow airport on November 26.

The men, all from south London, are Mr Anthony Michael White, aged 40, unemployed; Mr Michael John McAvoy, aged 32, a builder, and Mr Brian Robinson, aged 40, a motor trader. Mr Anthony John Black, aged 31, a security guard, was charged with a similar offence on Tuesday.

Sale room

£57,200 for plain blue canvas

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A canvas which was painted a uniform bright blue all over by Yves Klein in 1957 was sold by Sotheby's yesterday for £57,200 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000) to a private collector. It sets an auction record for the artist; the previous high for a plain blue canvas was £37,000 in 1981.

Sotheby's sale of "Modern and Contemporary Art 1945-1983" saw very strong prices for European paintings of the 1950s and 1960s.

A patch of green with squiggles over it against a blue background painted by Jean Fautrier in 1958 made another record for an individual artist at £44,000 (estimate £25,000 to £30,000), as did a patchwork of colours by Serge Poliakoff at £24,200 (estimate £13,000 to £15,000). The sale totalled £657,701 with 22 per cent unsold.

Letters from Oscar Wilde, his wife and his lover, Lord Alfred Douglas, to a fortune teller in Mortimer Street called Mrs Robinson were among the curiosities at the English literature sale.

The first, from Wilde to "the Sibyl of Mortimer Street" dates from 1894, the year before his arrest and trials. It sold for £1,870 (estimate £800 to £1,000).

The next is from Mrs Wilde a fortnight after the arrest. "What is to become of my husband who has so betrayed and deceived me and ruined the lives of my darling boys?", she asks. It sold for £7,920 (estimates £1,500 to £2,000).

Safety device could have saved 92 lives

By William Norris and David Cross in London and Richard Wigg in Madrid

Airport failings and gaps in safety measures may have been significant factors on Wednesday's crash at Madrid airport that killed 92 people. The most important may prove to be the fact that Spain has consistently refused to install a device that could have averted the disaster.

First, although the taxiways at Barajas airport are marked with green lights, only two of them may have been working on the path used by the Aviaco DC9 aircraft as it blundered on to the main runway in dense fog and into the path of the Iberia Boeing 727 as it took off.

Señor Alejanro Barrios, of the Spanish Airline Pilots Association, said that less than 12 hours before the collision the fault was pointed out to the control tower by the pilot ot another domestic flight. The reply, according to Señor Barrios, was: "We know about that".

Second, although most important airports have red warning lights to tell pilots they are entering a live runway. Barajas airport has only marker boards that are not illuminated.

Third, the Spanish aviation authorities have consistently refused to install a British ground radar system at Madrid that could have averted the collision – a system so sensitive it can detect a rabbit on the runway.



Ground radar that could have prevented the Madrid crash

The system, which costs £200,000, is manufactured by Racal Avionics. It or similar devices are installed at Heathrow, Amsterdam, Paris, Frankfurt, Rome and Prague. One is under construction at Gatwick. The device means all vehicles and aicraft are clearly visible on a radar screen.

The inquiry after the world's worst aviation disaster at Tenerife in March 1977, when two Boeing 747s collided in fog on the runway, strongly recommended the installation of ground surveillance radar.

However, in spite of continual pressure from the Spanish pilots' association, and promises of action in 1976 and 1979, nothing has been done.

After an incident in 1981, when an Iberia Boeing 727 and a foreign airline's Boeing 707 almost collided on the runway in fog, the pilots complained again. Seven months later, the authorities again promised action, with the same result.

There is still no sign of action. Señor Pedro Tena, Director of Civil Aviation, Maintained yesterday that Barajas did not need ground radar since the airport was affected by fog on only four days a year.

It is the final responsibility of the pilot to decide whether conditions are safe for take-off. But if flying is authorized by the control tower and other aircraft are operation, there is considerable pressure on him

Spanish Air Crashes since 1977

Date	Location	Aircraft	Dead
March 77	Tenerife	747/747	585
April 80	Tenerife	727	146
Sept 82	Malaga	DC 10	53
Nov 83	Madid	747	181
Dec 83	Madrid	727/DC 9	92
		Total:	1,047

Worldwide, in 1982, 983 people died in scheduled airline disasters.

Rates curbs Bill will fail, Tory MPs tell Jenkin

The Conservative backbench 1922 executive last night left Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, in no doubt that he would fail if he attempted to push rate-capping powers through Parliament (our Political Correspondent writes).

A special meeting had been arranged with the executive of 18 to enable Mr Jenkin to measure the strength of backbench feeling against his White Paper.

The White Paper, published last August, has not been debated in the Commons despite the fact that the actual legislation could be published next week. Some of the Bill's Conservative opponents say that this indicates ministers' fears of backbench feeling.

Although last night's meeting with the 1922 executive was private, it is known that at least a third of its members oppose government proposals.

Korchnoi opts for postponement

By Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent

WORLD CHESS

After his heavy loss to Garry Kasparov in the seventh game of the Acorn Computer World Chess Championship semi-final, Viktor Korchnoi used his right to ask for a postponement in the match yesterday at the Great Eastern Hotel, London.

The only play was an unofficial match between Tony Miles and the Czechoslovak grandmaster, Vlastimil Hort.

Kasparov leads 4-3 and it will require a tremendous effort on Korchnoi's part to redeem matters.

His is such a dynamic personality that, despite being some 33 years older than his opponent, he may yet come back and regain equality. But the odds must be clearly heavily against him.

The postponed game will be played next Saturday since the ninth game of the Smyslov-Ribli match is due to be played today.

Ribli had the White pieces on Wednesday in his vital eighth game of the match against Smyslov.

Being two points down it was imperative for him to win a game if he wished to stop Smyslov's impressive progress.

The game followed the line in the Schlechter variation of the Slav Defence which Smyslov had already employed in the sixth game. But on move 9 Smyslov varied from that game, for the better as it turned out, since White was soon suffering from weaknesses in his pawn structure.

However Ribli opened up the game so as to obtain some counterplay with his pieces and Smyslov somewhat unwisely captured a pawn, thereby weakening his own Kingside pawn structure.

Despite being short of time (he had only two minutes left for his last five moves) Ribli played the attack well and Smyslov had to play accurately to avoid a loss. Nevertheless, with some excellent counter-strokes he obtained a drawn position and the game was agreed a draw after 41 moves.

The score now is: Smyslov 5, Ribli 3.

Eighth game
White Ribli, Black Smyslov
QGD Slav Defence, Schlechter variation

1 P-Q4	P-Q4	22 R-B6	Q-N5
2 P-QB4	P-QB3	23 RxB	N-Q2
3 N-QB3	N-KB3	24 R-Q5	K-N2
4 P-K3	P-KN3	25 P-R4	N-B3
5 N-B3	B-N2	26 NxN	PxN
6 B-Q3	O-O	27 RxR	RxR
7 O-O	B-N5	28 P-R5	Q-Q3
8 P-KR3	BxN	29 Q-K3	PxP
9 QxB	R-K1	30 P-Q5	R-Q2
10 R-Q1	Q-Q3	31 Q-R3	K-R3
11 P-K4	PxKP	32 P-QN4	R-K2
12 BxP	QN-Q2	33 Q-QB3	R-B2
13 P-R3	NxB	34 Q-K3 ch	K-N2
14 NxN	Q-K3	35 Q-KB3	R-B5
15 P-QN3	P-QN4	36 P-N5	R-KN5
16 PxP	PxP	37 Q-K3	P-R5
17 P-QR4	Q-Q4	38 R-Q4	P-KR4
18 PxP	QxP(N4)	39 RxR ch	PxR
19 B-B4	N-N3	40 Q-Q4	P-N6
20 QR-B1	QR-Q1	41 QxKRP	Drawn
21 B-K5	BxB		

Trafalgar Square fountain revels banned to improve new year safety

Tough safety measures to prevent a repeat of the new year crowd hysteria in Trafalgar Square 12 months ago in which two women died were announced yesterday by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary.

The traditional frolics in the fountains will be banned and Scotland Yard has said that if the crowd gets too big the police may take action.

Mr Brittan, in a written Commons answer, gave an eight-point plan to allow revellers to celebrate the new year in safety.

All Trafalgar Square fountains will be drained and the main ones boarded up to stop people climbing up them.

Electronic visual display boards will be installed to flash messages and crowd control instructions to revellers.

Publicity will remind people of the dangers and encourage them not to drink too much and to behave sensibly.

British Rail will run extra trains in the early hours to cut the risk of a last-minute dash for home.

First-aid facilities will be improved and telephone links to ambulance control centres provided.

Traffic bollards and a traffic island, which people could stumble over, will be replaced with removable posts.

There will be closer liaison between the police and the fire brigade.

Tube and pedestrian subways under the square will be used by the police to make it easier to deploy officers.

After Mr Brittan's announcement, Scotland Yard said that if crowds become too heavy people may be diverted away from the square.

"The square is not designed for very large crowds and it has been necessary to make some changes to minimize inconvenience and injury," a yard spokesman said.

Sufficient police would be on duty and would be "especially concerned to deter or disperse" rowdy people.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Edgar Maybanks, who will be in charge of the operation, said: "We a looking forward to a busy but pleasant night. While we have made some changes from last year, they are in the main designed to help people have a happy time with the minimum of regulation.

"The New Year's Eve celebration in Trafalger Square is a traditional yet spontaneous expression of human warmth and we do not wish to restrict it unnecessarily".

"We all have a duty – emergency services and revellers alike – to be responsible in our conduct. I am sure that with the traditional good humour of both revellers and police, the new year will be welcomed in the right spirit."

The safety measures were drawn up in consultation with senior police officers, Home Office officials, representatives of the Department of the Environment, Westminster City Council, ambulance services, the fire brigade, London Transport, British Rail and British Transport police.

Their aim was to prevent the ugly scenes of last New Year's Eve when two people died and 143 were taken to hospital. The Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Sir Kenneth Newman, had provided Mr Brittan with a comprehensive report of the deaths.

More university places needed, not fewer, teachers say

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Statisticians at the Department of Education and Science were accused yesterday of getting their sums wrong on future university student numbers. Instead of falling by 20 per cent between now and 1984, they would rise over the next six years and then level off.

That challenge to government policy, which assumes that institutions will have to contract or close over the next decade, was published yesterday in a document, *The Real Demand for Student Places*, by the Association of University Teachers, representing 34,000 academics.

It throws into question the "Great Debate" on the future of the universities being orchestrated by the University Grants Committee, based on the education department research. "The so-called Great Debate might well end up as a joke", Miss Diana Warwick, the association's general secretary, said.

The Government's predictions are questioned on two grounds: that they take no account of the rising birth rate in social classes 1 and 11 who go to university in disproportionately large numbers and no account of the increasing numbers of women going into higher education.

"The AUT asks why did the DES not recognize these trends? Why is the DES apparently satisfied with arbitrary judgments?

"The answers to these questions may be embarrassing for the Government but not such an embarrassment as it would be for the nation if adequate provision for future university education is not made", the document says.

The association's other argument for maintaining and expanding the university system is Britain's need for a skilled and educated workforce for economic recovery. It will be pursuing its challenge to the Government's figures with Mr Peter Brooke, the minister responsible for higher education.

The document has been sent to the Prime Minister, MPs, and all university vice-chancellors and principals. Mr Giles Radice, Labour spokesman on education, said yesterday that research showed that the Government was slamming the door in the face of today's eight-year-olds.

"It shows that if the Government's plans to cut the higher education sector further are carried out, many thousands of qualified young people will be denied the choice of entering university."

The association predicts that demand for university places will rise by 16 per cent between now and 1989 and then return to its present level. It says the proportion of 18-year-olds in social classes I and II will rise from 27 per cent of the total age group in 1977 to 40 per cent by 1998. That will have an effect on student demand.

The proportion of female students has increased from 30.6 per cent in 1970-1 to 41.3 per cent in 1982-83. It says it is reasonable to assume that trend will continue.

The Real Demand for Student Places (Association of University Teachers, United House, 1 Pembridge Road, London W11 3HJ; free).

Cash 'vital' for RSC at Barbican

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

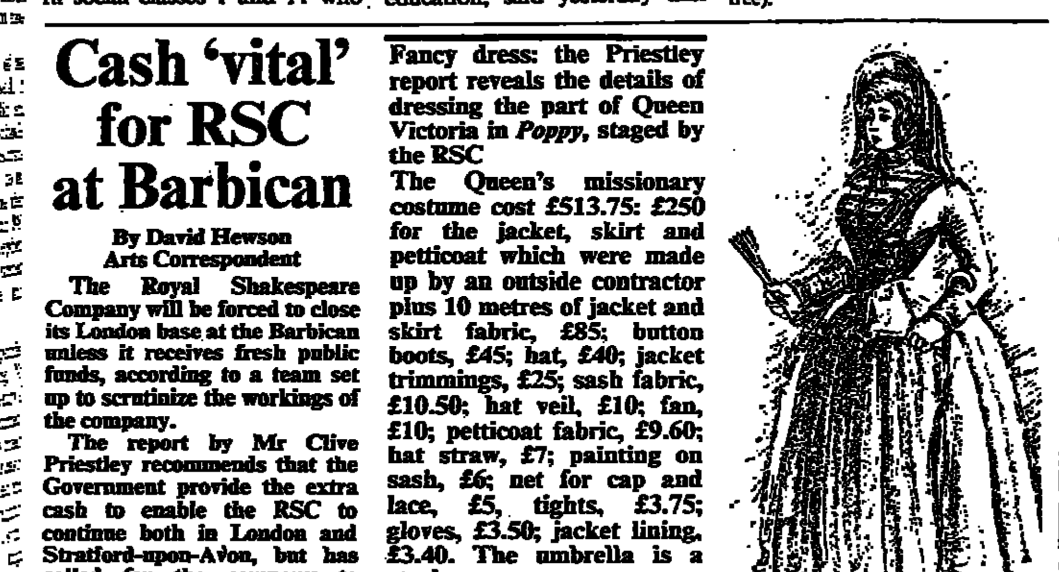
The Royal Shakespeare Company will be forced to close its London base at the Barbican unless it receives fresh public funds, according to a team set up to scrutinize the workings of the company.

The report by Mr Clive Priestley recommends that the Government provide the extra cash to enable the RSC to continue both in London and Stratford-upon-Avon, but has called for the company to reduce the amount of overtime paid to its production staff, and to renegotiate the working practices of stage staff at the Barbican.

Mr Priestley's team, set up on the Prime Minister's orders, revealed that the two joint artistic directors of the company, Trevor Nunn and Terry Hands, receive annual salaries of nearly £50,000 and £35,000 respectively, although Mr Nunn is on unpaid sabbatical.

Of those salaries, Mr Priestley says: "It is the men not their posts who carry the pay. I do not agree with those who argue that they are overpaid. I do not see why in principle it is wrong to set a high value on merit in the subsidized theatre.

"The joint artistic directors have a remarkable and fitting talent as may be seen in their work on the stage and I have no reason to disbelieve what others have told me, that they could earn more in the commercial sector, especially abroad."



Fancy dress: the Priestley report reveals the details of dressing the part of Queen Victoria in *Poppy*, staged by the RSC

The Queen's missionary costume cost £513.75: £250 for the jacket, skirt and petticoat which were made up by an outside contractor plus 10 metres of jacket and skirt fabric, £85; button boots, £45; hat, £40; jacket trimmings, £25; sash fabric, £10.50; hat veil, £10; fan, £10; petticoat fabric, £9.60; hat straw, £7; painting on sash, £6; net for cap and lace, £5, tights, £3.75; gloves, £3.50; jacket lining, £3.40. The umbrella is a stock prop.

RSC performers earn between £120 and £400 for a 45-hour week, while musicians were paid between £163 and £279 for a 24-hour week. Production workers received a basic average of £9,900, but boosted that to £13,422 with overtime.

Mr Priestley praises the RSC staff for their dedication to the company and concludes that they are not overpaid.

He also rejects the notion that the subsidized RSC offers unfair competition to the commercial West End.

"It seems evident that there are the makings of a 'mixed economy' between the subsidized and the commercial theatre, television and the cinema. Examples of plays which have originated in the RSC and transferred to the West End or to film or television are *Privates on Parade, Educating Rita* and *Nicholas Nickleby*." Mr Priestley concludes that there is a "palpable underfunding" of the RSC compared with the National Theatre. The company will receive a £3.6m grant from the Arts Council this year but expects an accumulated deficit of £191,000, rising, on present results, to nearly £1.7m by March 1985.

The report recommends that the RSC is given two years to solve the peaks and troughs of work in the production department which give rise to additional overtime and to renegotiate practices at the Barbican. It urges the Arts Council to increase the company's grant for this year to £4.1m and recommends an additional grant to wipe out the £191,000 deficit.

The RSC said yesterday that it had made its observations on the report to Lord Gowrie, the Minister for the Arts.

Counsellor for prostitutes is appointed

The London Borough of Camden has appointed a "prostitution resources officer" to help women who want to stop being prostitutes. Confirming the appointment yesterday, a council spokesman declined to identify the woman, but said that she had been seconded from the social services department for a six-month trial period.

The official will conduct a survey of orginizations that could help, including voluntary and statutory welfare agencies, the police, and Job Centres and will probably counsel prostitutes themselves.

It is believed to be first appointment of its kind, although Camden has been campaigning or more than a year to reduce prostitution and its attendant problems

Royal butler 'received death-threat calls'

By Craig Seton

Death threats apparently made to Mr Andrew Lightwood a former royal butler, were being investigated by Gloucestershire police yesterday.

Mr Lighwood said that he would telephone Princess Anne to explain personally why he had left his job Gatcombe Park, after warnings that he was to be killed.

Buckingham Palace said yesterday that it could not discuss security matters but added that Mr Lightwood, aged 23, could be in breach of his terms of employment in talking to the press.

Mr Lightwood who was for four years in the service of the Queen, became Princess Anne's butler in August but left after reporting to the police that he had received about 14 telephone calls on an unlisted number at Gatcombe Park from a man with a strong Irish accent who threatened him with death.

Mr Lightwood, who is now unemployed, said yesterday that he had been planning to leave his job with Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips because of the pressure of working for the Royal Family but threats had forced him to leave earlier.

The police said that Mr Lightwood had complained to them about the threats and officers were still investigating.

Museum move

Plans for a museum of world railways in Peterborough using disused rail warehouses to display locomotives and rolling stock in working condition, are being studied by a group of rail enthusiasts.



Dolly mixture: Mr Xavier Roberts in London yesterday with some Cabbage Patch Kids. (Photograph: John Manning.)

Prince William to get Cabbage Patch Kid

By Tony Samstag

Prince William is to be given his own Cabbage Patch Kid. Mr Xavier Roberts, who created the soft dolls but prefers to be known as their "father", said in London yesterday: "I certainly hope to send one to Prince William by Christmas. I have a number of suitable candidates with me."

It will be one of the individually-made originals from Mr Roberts's American factory, Babyland General Hospital, and not a mass-produced doll from Hongkong.

So ugly that they make ET look like Paddington Bear, the dolls have created a sensation in the United States, with riot in shops and early specimens changing hands on the collectors' market for thousands of dollars.

The launch in Britain spearheaded an international onslaught in 1984, with West Germany targetted for February and Japan by April.

Mr Roberts, aged 28 and from Georgia, the "father" of 300,000 handmade dolls (2½ million more have been mass produced in Hongkong to date) is not above sending himself up a bit, with his sort-of Stetson hat and his rattlesnake-skin boots.

He refused to disclose how much money he has made from his Cabbage Patch – an American equivalent of the gooseberry bush under which babies are found – but it is clearly enough to have made him a multi-millionaire with a 38-bedroom mansion on 430 acres in the Blue Ridge mountains, five very large cars and an olympic-size pool.

Mr Roberts considers that his dolls are not bought but "adopted", and supplies "adoption certificates" and "official registration" procedures.

A computer ensures that each doll is different from all the others in some physical detail and in its name.

The dolls will sell here for £24.95. About 15,000 have been supplied for Christmas and Harrods has sold several hundred already.

Arthritis drug may be withdrawn

By Thomson Prentice
Medical Reporter

A drug introduced to Britain last year as a pain-reliever to sufferers from rheumatism and arthritis may be withdrawn after talks between the Committee on Safety of Medicines and the manufacturers about its side-effects.

The drug, Flosint, has been under surveillance since it was marketed in September of last year. The Department of Health and Social Security confirmed yesterday that discussions were taking place with Farmitalia Carlo Erba, the manufactureres, of Barnet, Hertfordshire.

A decision on whether to withdraw the drug may be taken when the Committee on Safety of Medicines holds its monthly meeting in London next Thursday.

A spokesman for the company said yesterday: "We have not been asked to withdraw it as for as I am aware, and I would almost certainly be aware of such a request.

Flosint, available only on prescription, is one of a group of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs which have indemethacin as an active component. Indomethacin is known to have such side-effects as headaches, dizziness, gastro-intestinal discomfort, ulceration and bleeding.

Changing population 'will cost more'

Economic 'time bomb' warning

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Sciences Correspondent

"Time bombs" that will affect public spending are ticking away as a result of changes in the age structure of the population, politicians were told yesterday.

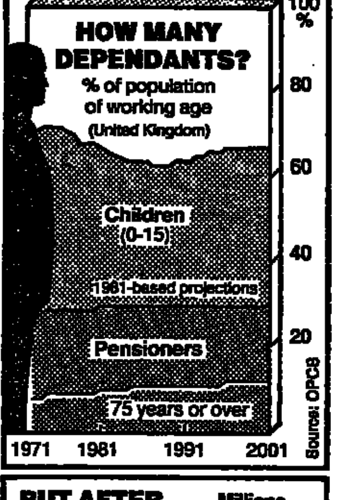
A report from the Simon Population Trust, based on a study by the Policy Studies Institute, argues that Britain's population is likely to remain stable or to grow only slightly until the end of the century.

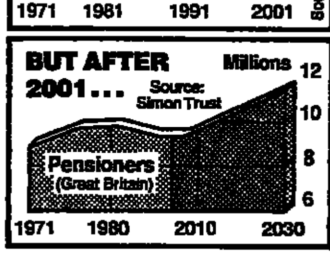
But the increase in the numbers of very elderly, the entry of children born in the 1955-65 "baby boom" into child bearing age, and a steep rise in the number of pensioners from the year 2010 when the "baby boom" generation start reaching retirement age, will all affect demands on health, social services, housing, education and pensions.

The report says that the review of the state earnings-related pension scheme, recently announced by the government, is urgently needed.

The labour force will at best grow only slowly or at worst decline early next century as the number of pensioners increases, so that there will be two workers per pensioner by the year 2030, against 2.75 at present.

That could mean a 60 per cent rise in pension contributions to a third of earnings on the worst assumption, or a 40 per cent rise at best.





Other factors may reduce that burden, and with reasonable economic growth it might be acceptable, the report says: "But in a sluggish economy the increases might well be regarded by many as intolerable."

In the shorter term, a threefold to fourfold increase is needed in teacher training to cope with the children to be born to the "baby boom" generation as they reach adulthood.

An estimated 220,000 extra houses or flats are needed a year in the 1980s to replace substandard housing, match the formation of new households as the numbers in their early twenties rise, and to meet other factors.

The demand slackens in the 1990s, but a million more houses are likely to be wanted in the coming years at a cost of about £15,000m.

The number of one-parent families is likely to grow dramatically over the next decade, the report says, with Department of Environment projections showing a 65 per cent increase between 1977 and 1991. That might entail a £300m increase in means-tested income support at 1979 prices by 1991.

The growth in the proportion of elderly this century also suggests a growing demand for personal and social services outside the family, although the pressure on the health service may be less than some fear.

Population Trends in Great Britain; their policy implications, (Simon Population Trust, 4 Provost Road, London NW3 4ST; £1.50)

Kidney patient may sue

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A patient who needs dialysis and is denied it by the National Health Service will be treated at a private hospital and the bill for the cost sent to the Department of Health, Mrs Elizabeth Ward, president of the British Kidney Patient Association, said yesterday.

She said she had discussed prospective treatment with a private hospital and the next patient she knew who needed it. She agreed it would be a test case. She said that if the Department of Health refused to pay the bill, she would seek legal advice.

According to the association, a registered cherity, at least 20,000 patients die each year because of acute renal failure, and Mr Graham P. Morris, a barrister writing this week in The Law Society's *Gazette*, says that kidney patients who cannot get treatment because of lack of equipment or nurses can sue the hospital authority.

Mrs Ward went to see Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, this week to impress on him the urgency of the problem which she says is forcing doctors to play God in deciding who should get treatment.

Mr Morris says the National Health Service Act, 1977, imposes a duty on the Secretary of State to secure improvement in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of illness.

"It is submitted that such a patient may enforce the public duty imposed upon his area health authority my means of an application for judicial review. Vocal demands by doctors and in the press for an increase in the resources applied to the treatment of kidney patients appear to be producing little or no practical benefit.

Britain soon to receive satellite TV channel

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The first commercial television channel to be beamed across Europe and received legally in Britain takes to the air on the new European satellite, ECS-1, in 10 days with three hours of family entertainment in the early evening. By next April Sky Channel, offered by the Satellite Television company, will have expanded to eight hours a day.

From 4 pm until midnight, seven days a week, it will transmit in English a mixture of music, films, sport and light entertainment from studios in London.*Starsky and Hutch, Charlie's Angels'* and *Vegas* and other American programmes make up a sustantial proportion of the channel's offerings. In January, when the service extends from three to five hours, that proportion will be over 60 per cent but by April it is supposed to drop by a third.

It is expected to drop even further once the television companies have concluded effective agreements with Equity for the retransmission of recorded material on cable.

Cable operators in Britain and other European countries will receive the Sky Channel on their antenna and redistribute the programme on their network.

Radio Rentals, Swindon, Select TV, Milton Keynes, and Greenwich Cablevision, which operate networks with a capacity for about six channels, have agreed to take the new service.

The Government has awarded 11 franchises for multichannel cable television, taking about 30 channels. They are expected to be customers of the new satellite service.

Satellite Television, which is 65 per cent owned by News Television, owners of Times Newspapers, *The Sun* and the *News of the World*, started experimentally in 1981 with £4m of backing from Barclays Merchant Bank and Guinness Mahon. By April, 1982, the company was transmitting for two hours each evening on the European orbital test satellite

The satellite programmes now reach more than half a million homes in Norway, Finland, Switzerland and France. Apart from expansion plans in Britain the service is expacted to be received by cable operators in the Netherlands, Austria and West Germany.

The service will be sold to cable operators in the UK for 10p a month for each subscriber and will be financed principally by selling pan-European advertising.



The new commercial television logo

Milk yield study after farm scare

A study has been started to determine if milk yield from farms in Stirlingshire has fallen after a chemicals scare.

The study, commissioned by the Industrial Pollution Inspectorate for Scotland, comes after allegations by Mr Andrew Graham, a farmer from Milngavie, near Glasgow, that his dairy cows have changed colour, stopped producing milk and wasted away and died after grazing near the Re-Chem International chemical waste plant, Bonnybridge near Falkirk.

He is planning to take legal action against the company and says he has lost around 60 cows.

Mr George Stott, the inspectorate's senior inspector, said that the amount of radioactive waste at the plant was well within authorized limits.

Dr Arthur Coleman, Managing Director of Re-Chem welcomed the investigation of the cattle deaths and said the company was confident that it would be cleared of involvement.

Quality fear over cheaper holidays

Travel agents are concerned that the holiday price war will lead to a decline in quality, Mr Ronald Jenkins, the new managing director of Olympic Holidays, said yesterday.

His company has announced an average 12 per cent cut in the price of travel to Greece and the Greek islands, after "negotiating right to the bone" on behalf of the British traveller.

Sealink fares to go up

Sealink is to increase fares on car ferries from January 1, because of rising costs. On crossings to Belgium and short journeys to France, the £9.50 fare for drivers and passengers will go up by 50p and on other continental routes by £1. Car rates have also been increased.

A new off-season 72-hour excursion fare, from £90, will be introduced next year between Holyhead and Dun Laoghaire, near Dublin, for any car with two adults.

£155,000 award for carpenter

A carpenter was awarded £155,000 agreed damages in the High Court in London yesterday for brain injuries suffered after a joist he was working on broke and he fell 10 feet.

Through his wife, Maureen, Mr Michael Reilly, aged 57, from Stratford, east London, sued his employers, M Conway (Formwork) Ltd, which had denied liability.

Miner killed

A miner, Mr James Smith, aged 46, of Blakeley Grove, Alverthorpe, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, was killed yesterday in the first fatal accident at the new Riccal mine in the Selby coalfield. He was crushed by machinery.

Olivier recovery

Lord Olivier was making a satisfactory recovery last night after a kidney operation on Wednesday at St Thomas's Hospital, London.

PARLIAMENT December 8 1983

Minister hopes to save £100m on annual drugs bill

HEALTH SERVICE

The Government is to attempt to reduce the drugs bill paid by the national health service to the pharmaceutical industry by reducing the profit drug companies can make from drugs sold to the NHS, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, said in a statement to the Commons. But the Government has decided not to implement the recommendation in a recent report which said that pharmacists should use generic drugs in place of branded drugs unless the prescribing doctor stated otherwise.

Mr Clarke said: prescription medicines cost the NHS in England about £1,250m in 1982/83. Drugs account for about 40 per cent of the total cost of the FPS, and about 10 per cent of the cost of the NHS as a whole. The pharmaceutical industry's profits from NHS sales are governed by the non-statutory Pharmaceutical Price Regulation Scheme which was introduced in its present form in 1978.

However, the present scheme has run unaltered for over five years. We have decided both to reduce the level of profit from NHS business and the level of sales promotion allowed as an expense under the Scheme.

First, under the scheme each pharmaceutical company participating in it is assigned a target rate of profit. We have decided that these targets should be reduced by an average of 4 percentage points which will represent a saving to the NHS in the UK of about £40m a year. We have also decided that the discretion which our department allows in certain circumstances when companies exceed their target profit rates should be tightened and related more closely to a company's particular circumstances. Companies will be told what their new targets are very shortly.

Second, the industry will spend about £180m this year on sales promotion. We propose, first, that companies should be asked to repay to the department a sum equivalent to any sales promotion expenditure which exceeds the level allowed under the scheme, and, second, that the industry limit should be reduced from the present level of 10 per cent of turnover to 9 per cent in 1985-86. We estimate that when fully implemented these measures should reduce actual expenditure on sales promotion by 25 per cent but we will review this area again to see if further reduction can be made.

All measures I have announced will take effect from 1 April next year. In a full year they will produce savings on the NHS drug bill rising on present estimates from £65m in 1984-85 to well over £100m in later years. This compares with the industry's total profit from sales in the UK in 1983 of an estimated £200m.

The changes will mean that the price freeze on drugs – introduced in August as part of the £25m savings agreed then – will continue, with few exceptions, through 1984-85 and beyond. Furthermore, the price freeze will be at the level established by the 2½ per cent cut of August.

We have also discussed with the industry the problem of parallel importing of medicines. We will shortly issue a consultative document on proposals which will ensure that medicines parallel imported for general dispensing must be licensed under the Medicines Act.

There remains the question of generic substitution which we have also been considering in the context of the PPRS review, as announced earlier this year. The Greenfield Committee proposed that a pharmacist should substitute an equivalent generic preparation for proprietary medicine unless the prescribing doctor had specifically indicated that this should not be done.

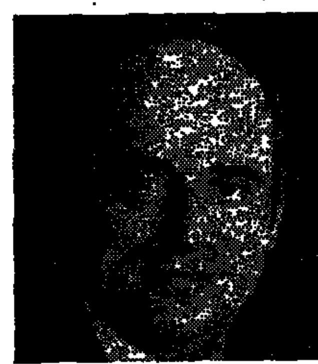
The Committee acknowledged that they had not taken account of the wider implications, for example, on the pharmaceutical industry, of their recommendation. Consultation on the Greenfield report earlier this year showed professional opinion to be divided on this recommendation.

It became clear that many general practitioners were concerned that their patients would be supplied with formulations of drugs that their doctors had not prescribed. General practitioners and pharmacists foresaw problems of divided responsibilities for the treatment of patients. The various procedures considered all raised serious practical problems.

We have therefore decided not to proceed with generic substitution. We do, however, intend to start a new campaign to encourage generic prescribing by doctors.

We recognize the research achievements of the industry and the contribution it makes to the UK economy and we want to see it continue to flourish. However, there is an urgent need to contain the drugs bill for the health service and this we are also determined to achieve. I very much hope that the industry will accept this position as we wish to continue with the price regulation scheme on a non-statutory basis.

Mr Michael Meacher, chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security: Far from achieving a balance, the measures announced are a wholly inadequate response to a public scandal of enormous proportions.


Mawhinney: A triumph for vested interests

It is outrageous that the drug companies are being permitted by the Government to make profits at the expense of the NHS of over £300m this year on a rate of return on capital employed of 25 per cent.

The Daily Telegraph, which is not a socialist magazine, reported a survey which found that £25m could be saved by substituting unbranded versions of branded drugs which cost the NHS £60m.

The Government's decision on generic substitution owes a great deal more to arm twisting by the drug companies than to the concern of the general practioners behind whom Mr Clarke seeks to hide.

Mr Clarke: The overall target of rate of return under the system we inheritied from the previous Labour government was 25 per cent, and above that a so-called grey area of discretion of a further 10 per cent.

What I have announced reduces that overall target to 21 per cent and the grey area to one third of whatever the company's target is.

The savings we are making are a substantial and significant response to genuine fears in this area and represent a fair deal between the interests of the drug users, that is the NHS and the interests of those who work and earn a great deal for the UK in the pharmaceutical industry.

Dr Brian Mcwhinney (Peterborough, C): What Mr Clarke has had to say on drug substitution is a great disappointment and regrettably will be seen as a triumph of vested interests of the medical and pharmaceutical professions over the needs of patients.

There is no reason clinically why substitution should not take place, bearing in mind that most hospital doctors already do that. Until generic substitution and generic prescribing are firmly in place the real savings to the health service on the drugs bill cannot be fully manifested.

Mr Clarke: The announcement I have made is estimated to save more than £100m per annum on the NHS drugs bill. To go beyond that at the expense of the pharmaceutical industry will actually jeopardize research-based manufacture in this country.

Output level above the cyclical peak in 1979

PM's QUESTIONS

Conservative governments had been very good for Britain, as was recognized at the last general election, Mrs Margatet Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in the Commons in response to accusations from the Opposition that her policies had been damaging.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition (Islwyn), asked if the Prime Minister had seen the figures which sadly confirmed a 25 per cent national rate of increase in business failures?

Which policies (he asked) is she going to change to reverse this sad trend?

Mrs Thatcher: Unemployment appears to have peaked. The number of vacancies is not increasing as fast as we would wish. There is considerable interest in new enterprise allowances, and as he will have seen from social trends there is a record number of people who are self-employed.

Mr Kinnock: Does she agree with me it is extremely sad that in four years there has been a drop in competitiveness to the tune of 30 per cent, investment has gone down by 20 per cent and given the recovery she talks about, if the present rate of progress was sustained, it would take 160 years to get back to the level of 1979.

Is that 160 year rate a medium-term or long term strategy?

Mrs Thatcher: Output per head and per hour now are 11 and 14 per cent above the previous cyclical peak in 1979. When the Chancellor of the Exchequer gave full details of capital expenditure, he pointed out that when you have a true definition of capital expenditure it is about the same now as it was in 1978-79.

Mr David Winnick (Wallsall North, Lab): While recognizing that hardly anything has gone right for the Prime Minister in the last few weeks – (Interruptions) – is it not unjust to deprive the Leader of the House of Commons of the job of coordinating Government policy?

Why does she not recognize, like the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Mr Prior) and the Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Peter Walker), in their coded way, that it is the policies themselves which are so damaging for Britain, and not the coordination of those policies?

Mrs Thatcher: I note he thinks to get inflation down is damaging for Britain, although our record is far better than Labour's. We have been far better on the National Health Service than the Labour Government. The last Labour Government actually reduced provision for the NHS in real terms in two of the five years they were in office.

PM attacks economic policy of US

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during question time in the Commons that United States high interest rates were extremely damaging to Britain and that its United States economic policies would cause great trouble in a year's time. Britain's position was sustain able and preferable.

mr Peter Tapsell (Lindsey East, C) had asked: When later today she receives the United States Secretart of the Treasury, Mr Don Regan, will she discuss with him the reasons why the economic policies which could broadly and fairly be described as neo-Keynsian seem to have brought such beneficial effects so far to the United States?

Before our own next Budget is finalized, could the principles of British economic policy be rigorously re-examined with an open mind? (Labour cheers)

Mrs Thatcher: In spite of what he says, a budget deficit of this kind is causing high interest rates which are extremely damaging to this country and other European countries and are preventing us from getting the amount of investment we should have here by drawing a lot of capital to the United States.

I would rather be in our position which is sustainable than in theirs, which I believe will cause great trouble in 12 months.

Problems of protection that face RUC

TERRORISM

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said in the Commons that it was certainly not up to Mr Edgar Graham, the Official Unionist member of the Northern Ireland Assembly who was murdered yesterday (Wednesday) to ask for protection.

Mr Prior during questions on security in the Province, said Mr Graham had been advised about extra protection which could be offered to him but there was no intelligence to suggest that he was a specific terrorist target.

He said Mr Graham's cold-blooded murder clearly demonstrated the barbarity of terrorism. The security forces had continued their dedicated efforts to combat terrorist crime. So far this year 580 people had been charged with terrorist-type offences, including 66 with murder and 59 with attempted murder. Some 204 weapons, over 34,568 rounds of ammunition and 3,762 lbs of explosives had been recovered in the same period.

The Government and the security forces (he said) will not be diverted from their tasks.

Mr Harvey Proctor (Billericay, C): It is now Mr Prior's duty to remain in post to restore security in Northern Ireland and, by every act, word and deed, to convey to the terrorists a simple message that they will not win.

Mr Prior: I agree wholeheartedly with everything he says.

The Rev Martin Smyth (Belfast, South, OUP): It is not a proper excuse for security spokespeople to say that victims of terrorism have not asked for personal protection, especially if they were aware of the danger and when they tell us that the security authorities know best.

No responsible politician would ask for personal protection which cannot be provided for his constituents.

Mr Prior: It would be quite unreasonable if the decision on whether protection was to be given was left to the individual to ask for it. It is only right, if the police think there is a degree of risk, that they should say that protection is to be given and should be given. I would certainly not suggest that it was in any way the responsibility of Mr Graham to ask for protection.

As I understand it, through the offices of Mr Smyth, inquiries were made following his view that there was a threat to Mr Graham. Mr Graham was then seen. He was advised about additional protection which he could take for himself and which could be offered to him.

He was not considered to be at greater risk than many other people and there was no intelligence to suggest that he was a specific target.

The problem from the RUC point of view is that they get information from the public about a number of specific threats and targets each day. Then they have to form a judgment themselves as to how much protection they are able to give.

It is not possible to protect everyone under these circumstances. But I would like to remove any doubt that it was up to Mr Graham to ask for protection. It certainly was not.

Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast East DUP): Which proposition does Mr Prior feel to be the more successful – for Northern Ireland MPs to request meetings with the Chief Constable of Northern Ireland concerning incidents in their constituencies or that the Chief Constable should refuse all of these meetings?

Mr Prior: The Chief Constable is responsible for security. He must make his own decisions. He is responsible to the police authority. The people are fortunate to have a man of his integrity. He faces difficult problems.

I understand Mr Robinson's point about the Chief Constable's relationship with MPs. There is a problem there but in the specific and special circumstances of Northern Ireland, it must be for the Chief Constable to decide whom he sees and does not see. I have offered a meeting with the political leaders at which both the Chief Constable and the GOC would be present. I will see if there are other ways of making that possible.

Mr Merlyn Rees, former Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Leeds South and Morley, Lab) asked if Mr Prior recalled the allegation that Mr Graham made in the Assembly recently that so-called loyalist paramilitaries and republican paramilitaries were collaborating to kill Ulster politicians, who had a much more difficult job than any MP in this respect.

Was there any evidence that the allegation of collaboration between killers, who had more in common with each other than with anyone else, was true?

Mr Prior: There is no specific evidence although there is a good deal of anecdotal evidence to that effect. Those who take the responsibility of democratic government in Northern Ireland have an extraordinarily difficult job and I thank them for the part they play.

Mr Michael Latham (Rutland and Melton, C): With the unending abominations and atrocities coming from this trouble Province there is great support for Mr Prior in all corners of the House for doing his duty. MPs are prepared to see that he gets whatever resources he needs to restore law and order.

Mr Prior: I have asked the GOC and the Chief Constable if they require additional resources and they say they do not. But if they come to me asking for extra resources, I know the Government will grant them.

Mr James Molyneaux, leader of the Ulster Unionists (Lagan Valley, OUP): Will he ensure that financial considerations will in no circumstances affect the operation or the efficiency of the security forces and will the Government give the highest possible priority to the elimination of terrorism which must be a prerequisit of any form of political process?

Mr Prior: I can confirm that the Government will give the utmost priority to the elimination of terrorism and will provide the resources necessary to do so.

I have never been asked by my colleagues to cut back on anything required for defence or law and order in the province, and I am certain they would not ask me now.

In later questions, Mr Peter Archer, chief Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, said that whatever his party's reservations about the Assembly, they believed it would be a tragedy if the departure of any group from the Assembly were thought to have been brought about by an act of terrorism. That would encourage the belief that any political initiative could be destroyed by the bomb and the gun.

Mr Prior: I am grateful for what he says. We would be playing into the hands of the terrorist if as a result of this the Assembly failed.

It is not our policy to contain violence, Mr Prior said later. It is our policy to defeat violence. But it must be left to the General Officer Commanding and the Chief Constable to determine the manner in which to conduct these operations.

Our security forces are on an operational footing and everything that has to be done will be done. It is all very well MPs and other making out that we are only half-hearted and we are not trying; they have to suggest what else we can do which is within the law. And it must be within the law.

Terrorists seek to bring about anarchy

ASSEMBLY

The IRA and the INLA were trying to bring about a situation of total anarchy in Northern Ireland and it would be playing into their hands if the Assembly were to be abandoned Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said in the Commons.

Answering questions about the future of the assembly, Mr Prior said: I have reguolar discussions with political leaders in Northern Ireland on a wide range of topics, including the assembly. The Government believes that the Assembly continues to offer a framework within which progress could be made towards a lasting and acceptable political settlement. It is in the interests of all the people of Northern Ireland that constitutional parties should participate in it.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Battersea, Lab): Is it not time to come forward with new political initiatives given that the Assembly has much future?

Mr Prior: If one is not optimistic about something in Northern Ireland one is not suitable to be doing anything, so I believe that the Assembly does form the best way of improving democratic control within Northern Ireland by the people of Northern Ireland.

I hope that those who have so far refused to take part or who have found some excuse to come out of the Assembly, will have second thoughts. It is easy enough to knock down democratic institutions; it is quite hard to build them up.

I had hoped (he said later) that the Assembly was one means in which gradually we could get people to work together to actually bring forward fresh political leaders.

One of the tragedies of the death of Mr Graham was that here was a young man who was making his reputation in the assembly.

Mr William Ross (Londonderry East, OUP): Does he not appreciate that the future of the Assembly in its present form does not depend on him, but rather on Mr Hume and the SDLP?

Mr Prior: The future of the assembly depends on all people in Northern Ireland. It is true to say that the nationalist communities and the unionist communities have a veto on progress if that is the way they wish it. I would have thought the best way forward was for both sides to come together.

The Rev Ian Paisley (Antrim North, DUP): It is the purpose of the IRA and the INLA to smash the assmebly so it behoves the democratically elected members to show we are behind the assembly.

Mr Prior: I am convinced the purpose of the IRA and the INLA and other terrorist organization is to bring about a situation of total anarchy in Northern Ireland and we are playing into their hands if we allow that.

Mr John Hume (Foyle, SDLP): Very few people in Northern Ireland have any faith in the Assembly. The two main parties sitting in the assembly, one of which has just withdrawn, both reject the terms of devolution to power which the Government laid down before the Assembly elections took place. That is the fourth occasion in a decade the terms had been rejected.

Mr Prior: That exemplifies the problem I have. One major party rejects it for one reason, and the other rejects it for precisely opposite reasons.

Brent scenes 'amount to mob rule by fascist left'

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, condemned as "contrary to every tenet of democracy" the scenes at London Borough of Brent Council the previous night when protestors intervened and Conservatives and Liberals were prevented from taking control of the council. Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, did not accept Conservative invitations to denounce the scenes.

The matter was raised during Prime Minister's questions by Mr Fergus Montgomery (Altrincham and Sale, C) asking Mrs Thatcher whether she had noted the disgraceful scenes by left-wing rent-a-mob, to prevent a coalition of Conservatives and Liberals taking control.

As Mr Kinnock took so long to condemn violence on the picket lines of Warrington, will he now unequivocally condemn violence by members of his party in Brent?

Mrs Thatcher: I saw reports of the disgraceful scenes which amounted to mob rule by the fascist left.

Mr John Hannam (Exeter, C): The tactics used by the left-wing Labour councillors in Brent to gag their opponents and ride roughshod over the opposition is reminiscent of pre-war fascist Germany.

Mrs Thatcher: By procedural devices the Conservatives and Liberals were effectively gagged in full council meeting and I totally and utterly condemn it as contrary to every tenet of democracy.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield North, C): My constituents would have expressed deep concern at events in Brent last night. They, together with the rest of the country, will take the Leader of the Opposition's silence at question time today as condoning the actions last night.

Mrs Thatcher: The events in Brent were a disgrace to democracy and a reflection of the true nature of the fascist left.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Sex Equality Bill, second reading.

EEC near agreement on fisheries package

FISHING

An outline of a possible compromise fisheries package on total allowable catches and quotas had emerged in EEC fisheries negotiations which, if adopted, would meet the needs of British fishermen, Mr Michael Jopling, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, reported when opening a Commons debate on EEC fisheries on Wednesday.

He would continue to consult the industry at every stage of the negotiations. He expected the fixing of 1983 total allowable catches and quotas to be a major item for the Council of Fisheries Ministers on December 14. The Government had urged the Commission to come forward as early as possible with proposals for 1984.

He announced that decommissioning grants, aimed at reducing capacity in those sections of the fleet where total capacity exceeded fishing opportunities, would be £400 per gross registered ton. The Community would help to fund payments only for vessels down to 12 metres long.

Our own industry (he said) pressed us to widen the coverage of the scheme and we have decided to make the grant available to any vessels over 10 metres long.

The new schemes or decommissioning grants, laying up grants, and aids for joint ventures and exploratory voyages would be opened as soon as possible after the making of the necessary statutory instrument. The aim was to do this before Christmas.

Making that order would mark a very important stage in the development of fisheries policy. It represented a key element in the full implementation of common fisheries policy and was to be welcomed even more because it would bring real benefits to the British industry.

Following discussion of the Commission's proposals for guide prices in 1984 there was general agreement that the guide price for plaice should be increased by 2 percentage points more than the Commission first proposed and that cod prices should increase by 6 rather than 5 per cent.

A number of other member states were worried about their markets for whiting and the proposal would therefore be amended to show a 5 per cent increase rather than the 6 per cent originally proposed.

The revised proposals struck an appropriate balance between the needs of the fishing industry, consumer interest and the need to protect the Community budget from the effects of setting withdrawal prices too high a level.

At least six Community fisheries inspectors were already in post and he had been assured that the full complement of 13 would be in post by the end of the year. He would prefer to reserved judgment on the need for an increase in complement until they had seen how the initial number got on.

The common fisheries policy, for all its teething problems, was good for the Community and this country.

Peers accept case for televising proceedings of the House

HOUSE OF LORDS

Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Lords, said in a Lords debate that, speaking only for himself, he strongly supported a motion by Lord Soames (C) for the televising of some proceedings of the House for an experimental period and that he would vote in favour of it.

The motion instructed the sound broadcasting committee to consider and report how the decision should be implemented.

Moving it, Lord Soames said that providing the business of the House which was transmitted was carefully selected and well-edited under strict ground rules, designed to facilitate the imparting of information rather than knocking or mocking, the televising of the chamber must do more good than harm.

It was not only the best second chamber the country had, but the best second chamber the country was likely to have for as far ahead as one could see.

We should set about trying (he said) to make the most of ourselves and go to some trouble to see that the work we do is known about by the public and hopefully that it is well thought of.

The powers of the House had been cut to the bone and it had been threatened with extinction. There was a strong body of opinion which said a second chamber was a necessity and who were therefore in principal well disposed towards the House.

I believe (he added) that the public would like to be able to see us at work – warts and all.

The House of Commons had shown but scant inclination to lead in this matter. If past performance was any guide, if the Lords were again to wait on a decision from the Commons, they might be waiting for an endlessly long time.

Viscount Whitelaw said: I must make it clear that speaking only for myself, I strongly support the motion and will vote in favour of it. (Cheers) I have been a strong supporter of televising Parliament, both this House and the Commons, since the debate in 1966 when I was on the losing side.

He was obliged on behalf of the Government to state the obvious – that it would wish to study carefully the public expenditure implications of any scheme for the televising of Parliament. On the general principles with which they were concerned, the Government remained neutral – though some more neutral than others.

When sound broascasting was introduced on a permanent basis in 1978, it began in both Houses at the same time. If this motion was carried, it might well be that a television experiment took place in the House of Lords alone. His colleagues in the House of Commons felt this was bound to lead to some practical and political problems.

Undoubtedly, any decision to televise the Lords would put pressure on the Commons to follow suit. He believed it was important that they should not act in a way which would make it difficult for the Commons to take its own decisions in its own time. It might be, therefore, that the best way for them to proceed would be, as the motion said, by way of experiment for a limited period only.

An experiment in the Lords would give the Commons a breathing space to consider its own plans and the experience might prove helpful to it in deciding how to go forward.

There were a number of ways in which the experience could be arranged, and each raised important questions of editorial control, judgment and selection. He felt the most practical scheme for an experimental period would be the so-called "drive-in" scheme. But any such decisions would not limit the options for the longer term in the Lords or Commons.

One of the problem from the Government's point of view was in connection to menisterial statements. It might be thought inappropriate if only the repetition of such statements in the Lords were televised, though this could be overcome by inhibiting the televising of statements originally made in the Commons. If it was thought he had put this in to phrase his colleagues in the Commons, that would be correct. (Laughter)

Peyton: An alternative to civil commotion

There were several other matters which would need to be resolved, including the physical accommodation of the equipment and operating staff, restrictions on the use of extracts, the copyright of the recordings, the question of wether an archive of the recordings should be retained in Parliament, and the question of parliament privilege. All these points would be given careful consideration by the Sound Broadcasting Committee, if the motion was agreed to.

Lord Shackleton (Lab) said, in supporting the motion, that he did not believe it would be possible in the long run for the Lords to be televised and for the Commons not to be. The Lords had a reputation for pioneering so they ought not to wait any longer. Televising would come sooner or later, as it had in other parts of the world.

He hoped it would lead to a greater understanding by the public of what actually happened in Parliament.

He was confirmed in his belief that they ought to go this way by the likely development of cable television. Before now, there had been a shortage of space when Parliament would be competing with more entertaining activities.

Lord Winstanley (L) said television now used sound tapes in association with still pictures or cartoons. If they had the sound, why not have the real pictures? Why not go the whole hog?

They should not venture too much into the idea of controls. The television staff were professionals. If they trusted them, they should let them in and let them do it. If they did not trust them, they should not let them in. If it was done in a way they did not like, they could put them out again. They should have televsion, warts and all.

The Bishop of Chichester (the Rt Rev Eric Kemp) said he supported the motion. Some proceedings of the General Synod of the Church of England had been televised for several years and he had not noticed any tendency of members to play to the cameras. He would be reluctant to think peers were less able to resist temptation than Synod members.

Lord Peyton of Yeovil (C), in a maiden speech, said he believed he was wrong to support the introduction of sound broadcasting. When the interests of television and Parliament came into conflict, it was likely that those of Parliament would in the long run be eroded.

Television was a thrusting and intrusive medium and those who handled it had little difficulty persuading themselves that their interests should always come first on the grounds that they coincided inevitably with the national interest.

Sound broadcasting of the Commons had done little to enhance the reputation of that House. Partial coverage presented difficulties of selection, editing and comment. Those things would inevitably be in the hands not of Parliament but of the medium and he feared that would be a source of unease and difficulty for Parliament as a whole. Any restrictions imposed would in the long run be unlikely to endure.

Parliament was a very stange and unique assembly, put together in strange ways. It was very easy to criticise and lampoon, but it offered a buttress to personal liberty and an alternative to civil commotion. If now, in order to make itself more interesting and entertaining, it accepted the yoke of television, he believed it would be putting in jeopardy things of greater importance and real lasting worth.

Lord Hill of Luton (Ind), a former chairman of the ITA and of the governors of the BBC, said the most significant, widely listened to and observed news was that from television. Inevitably it followed in an open democracy committed to that full exposure that the door should be open to the medium which was the most effective exposure of information.

It would not be for the House or a group of its members to determine what was broadcast and what was not. It must be the media, with their commitment to impartiality, who were responsible for the selection and use of material. Anything else would be gravely misunderstood.

The motion was carried by 74 votes to 24 – majority in favour, 50.

Two days on telecommunications

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Debate on the motor industry. Coal Industry Bill, *remaining stages*.

Tuesday: London and Regional Transport Bill, second reading.

Wednesday and Thursday: Telecommunications Bill, remaining stages.

Friday: House Buyers Bill, second *reading*.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill, committee, second day.

Tuesday: Agricultural Holdings Bill, committee, third day.

Wednesday: Debate on BBC annual report for 1983. Debate on criminal injuries compensation scheme.

Thursday: Restrice Trade Practices (Stock Exchange) Bill, second reading.

Friday: Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) (No 2) Bill and Disabled Persons Bill, *second readings*.

MPs criticize DHSS for not knowing level of social security fraud

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Severe criticism of the Department of Health and Social Security for being unable to assess how much is being lost in social security frauds and uncollected National Insurance contributions has come from the Commons public accounts committee.

An estimate by a DHSS economic adviser that £500m a year might be being lost was dismissed by Sir Geoffrey Otton, second permanent secretary at the department, as hypothetical, in evidence to the committee.

He told the committee that a Rayner scrutiny estimate that 8 per cent of claimants were working might be too high.

But the committee says: "Whilst DHSS suspected that there was a good deal of undetected fraud, they had no enthusiasm for attempting to guess how much they were allowing to get away."

While noting that most detected fraud is for small sums, special claims control investigations "appear to indicate that a good deal of undiscovered fraud exists", the committee says.

"We are surprised at DHSS's attitude to the paucity of information on the extent of undetected fraud".

The large gaps in the department's knowledge mean it lacks a satisfactory basis for deploying staff on anti-fraud activities, and until random sampling of claimants, recommended by the Fisher Committee in 1973, or an alternative system is introduced, "it appears to us that ... it will remain uncertain how far discovered benefit fraud represents the measure of the whole problem."

While the department argues that random sampling would involve the investigation of people about whom there was no suspicion, the committee says that such an approach could hardly be more objectionable than the present system where some investigations are launched on the basis of anonymous letters.

"Overall we do not find at all satisfactory the present situation – or the DHSS's attitude on the lack of firm information on the extent of benefit fraud."

The department has estimated that increased anti-fraud activity since 1980 had produced savings in two years of £388m, but there had been criticism that the figure was exaggerated, the committee says.

It also gives a warning that the abandonment in 1982 of the Camelot computerized system for paying benefits meant that new computerized systems would not come in until 1986 at the earliest.

"Over a period of eight years the DHSS will have failed to eliminate a weakness in their systems which leaves many claims open to error and increased the risk that fraud and abuse will not be prevented", the committee says.

Despite warnings from the DHSS that the new system would be operational only by 1986 "if all went well".

On underpayment of National Insurance contributions by company directors and others with fluctuatong earnings, the committee says £50m in under payment was detected in 20 months. But the committee said it is not clear whether all were pursued and recovered.

The report is likely to prove of embarrassment to the Government, which promised tough action in 1979 to tackle benefit fraud and under payments of National Insurance contributions.

Committee of Public Accounts report: House of Commons Paper 102. (Stationery Office: £4.15).

● Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Social Security, has ruled that 55,000 invalidity pensioners, who moved on to long-term supplementary benefit from last month, should be eligible for one-off payments which could amount to as much as £8m (Our Political Correspondent writes).



Crime fighters: Mr Brian Hayes, chief constable of the Surrey police force which pioneered the use of police dogs in this country, with his latest recruit, Una, an alsatian aged three months. He will take charge of her early training.

Social trends: 2

More children gain O levels and go on to college

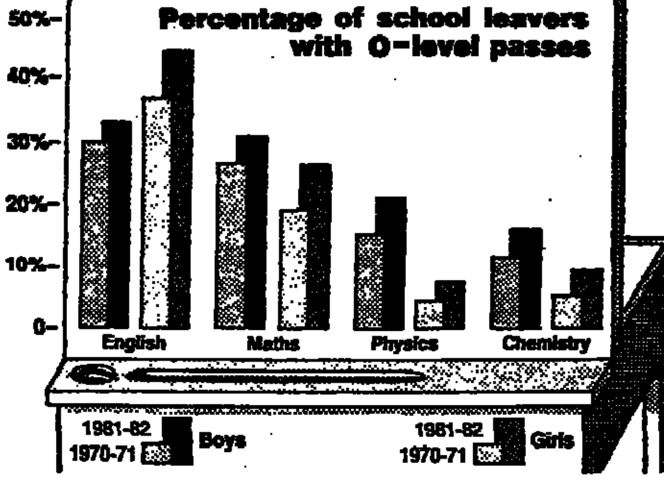
By Lucy Hodges
Education Correspondent

More boys and girls are passing O levels at school than they did 10 years ago, with girls doing better than boys at English and boys doing better in mathematics, physics and chemistry.

According to figures in *Social Trends*, 55 per cent of school-leavers in Britain had more than one O level pass (grade A to C) in 1981-82 compared with 50 per cent in 1973-74. In the 10 years between 1970-71 and 1981-82 the proportion of boys leaving school with O level passes in English, mathematics, physics or chemistry increased by 3, 4, 6 and 4 percentage points respectively. Among girls the corresponding increases were 7, 7, 4 and 4 percentage points.

The figures were as follows:

	Boys		Girls	
	70-71	81-82	70-71	81-82
Eng	30	33	37	44
Maths	27	31	19	26
Phys	15	21	4	8
Chem	11	15	5	9



In the six years from 1976 to 1982, there was a 19 per cent drop in primary pupil numbers because of the decline in the birth rate and numbers are expected to fall by a further 15 per cent by 1991. That will lead to a further 5 per cent drop in primary rolls and to a 25 per cent fall in secondary rolls.

Most secondary school children now go to comprehensives. In 1971 38 per cent went to comprehensives, but by 1982 it was 85 per cent in England and more than 96 per cent in Scotland and Wales.

The number of pupils staying into the sixth form has increased, from 27.5 per cent in 1975-76 to 29 per cent in 1980-81. The number going on to further and higher education has also risen, from 22.5 per cent in 1987-80 to 28 per cent in 1981-82.

Nearly a third of girls leaving school in 1981-82 went on to further or higher education, compared with just under a quarter of boys. "The trend for more school-leavers to go on to full-time further education is probably associated with rise in unemployment among young people", the report said.

The increase in the number of 16-year-olds unemployed reflected the national picture. In 1981-82, only a third of 16-year-old boys and a quarter of girls had jobs, compared with nearly half of 16-year-olds in 1975-76.

The figures show that there has been an improvement in the pupil-teacher ratio from 20.2 to 19.0 pupils per teacher between 1976 and 1982. They also show that education increases a person's earning power, and that nearly half of all college students in 1981-82 had fathers in the professional and employers and managers socio-economic groups.

Social Trends 14, Central Statistical Office (Stationery Office, £19.95).

Tomorrow: Housing

Astronauts to test 'Buck Roger's jet'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The first jet pack for propelling astronauts about in space Buck Rogers-style will be tested in orbit next month.

If successful, it will be used later in the year by an astronaut repair spacecraft, the solar maximum satellite, so it can resume monitoring flares and variations in particles emitted by the Sun, which influence the Earth's climate and radio communications.

A description of the back pack was given by Mr C. J. Meechan, vice-president for strategic planning, North American space operations, Rockwell International, California, which built the Space Shuttle, to a meeting of the Royal Society in London yesterday.

After reviewing the achievements of the Shuttle, Mr Meechan outlined progress on other projects for launching new types of satellites, the first large optical telescope (in 1986), orbiting laboratories and, by the early 1990s, large permanent space platforms.

But each goal had first to be backed by new equipment and methods for working and manoeuvring in space, he said. Those technologies were being tested in the early Shuttle flights.

Mr Meecham singled out the ability to make repairs and rescue of spacecraft as crucial to future projects. Rescue schemes were concentrated on restoring satellites to working order.

In answer to questions, he said that the Shuttle was not equipped to link up with a Russian spacecraft if a cosmonaut crew needed rescuing.

However, he suggested that a Soviet spaceman in a pressurized suit could be picked up from space by the Shuttle if its cargo doors were open. The cosmonaut would then be brought into the cabin.

Mr Meecham saw no technical objection to equipping a Shuttle with a device to lock on to a Soviet spacecraft. However, a similar device for coupling would also be needed on the Russian vehicle.

He said that the apparatus known as the androgenous docking collar, which was built for the Apollo-Soyuz mission, the only time the Americans and the Russians conducted a joint manned space programme, would be adequate for standard rescue equipment to be carried on all manned vehicles.

Footballer found gassed

Robert Wilson, aged 22, the Fulham footballer, and his wife Lesley were seriously ill with carbon monoxide poisoning yesterday after being gassed in the house that they moved into less than a month ago.

The couple were found unconscious at their semi-detached house in Woosehill, near Wokingham, Berkshire, early yesterday, by Mr Charles Grumbley, Mr Wilson's uncle.

It is believed that they had lain unconscious for up to 24 hours.

He failed to revive them and they were taken to the intensive care unit of the Royal Berkshire Hospital, in Reading.

Southern Gas said yesterday: "We did not install any of this equipment but we have been called in by the police to carry out a full investigation."

Robert Wilson: Seriously ill

Newspaper complaints rejected

Complaints against two local newspapers are rejected by the Press Council today.

The *Lincolnshire Standard* had been accused by Mr T. G. B. Barnes, a defeated Boston Concil election candidate of influencing an election by publishing an early report and photographs of his rivals on polling days.

But the editor, Mr George Wheatman, said the report of a pavement debate between Mr Barnes's rivals had nothing to do with the election. His newspapers did not take sides.

In the other case, the *Hornsey Journal* had been accused of conspiracy with a ratepayer who emptied a bag of rubbish on a council official's desk.

Mr Nicholas Windrum emptied the rubbish on the desk of Haringey Borough Council's public relations officer, Mr Marcus Grodentz, watched by a reporter and photographer.

Mr Roy Lumb, the London council's chief executive, said Mr Windrum had been granted access to the office only because a receptionist recognized the journalists with him. Their presence induced Mr Windrum to do what he did.

But Mr Michael Pearce, the editor, said his staff had simply recorded the event. They would not otherwise have got the story because of a council boycott of the newspaper.

Grant for railway study

The English Tourist Board has agreed to contribute £4,000 towards a study of Carlise-Settle railway line which is threatend with closure.

The survey, which started on Monday, has been commissioned by a steering committee from Cumbria, West Yorkshire and Lancashire county councils and will cost £32,000.

The Cumbria Tourist Board asked the English Tourist Board for a financial contribution becasue it wanted to emphasize the line's potential for tourism. It felt that the initiative by local authorities should be supported.

Cumbria and West Yorkshire are contributing £10,000 each. Lancashire County Council, district town and parish councils along the route and other interested bodies such as the Countryside Commission are also contributing.

Cumbria County Council said yesterday that the survey consultants would report in six months. Formal closure of the line is expected next week and a public hearing is likely to be held next autumn.

Israelis find six reasons to justify their policy of getting tough with Syria

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Mr Yitshak Shamir's Government is basing its new hard-line military policy in Lebanon – particularly the renewal of bombing raids – on the central assumption that Syria has recently lost its initiative there.

In an interview with *The Times*, a senior official with close links to Mr Shamir gave a warning that any withdrawal of the European contingents of the peacekeeping force in Beirut would be seen as "appeasement of Syria and would lead automatically to greater instability and more bloodshed.

He outlined six reasons why the Government believes Syria has lost the upper hand and can be more easily persuaded by a tough military policy to rethink its refusal to contemplate withdrawing its forces. He said that all of them were shared by the Reagan Administration and had been discussed extensively during the recent Washington summit.

The reasons given were:–

● Presiden Assad's serious illness. Israeli intelligence is now "more or less certain" he suffered a severe heart attack, wih complications from diabetes and a probable blood clot in the head. The official said President Assad was being treated by a leading neurologist as well a cardiologist.

● The fact that Syria discovered at the Geneva conference that the Lebanese Salvation Front was not standing as firmly or unitedly behind it as had been expected.

● *Information* that the Soviet Union has recently told Syria it does not want the renewal of full-scale warfare in Lebanon or the breakdown of the Geneva conference. Israel concludes that Russia's stand has reduced *the chances of global conflict* erupting in the region. President Andropov's illness is regarded as a key reason for the Soviet call for restraint.

● The Syrians had not realized that President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon would stand up so resolutely against its demand for abrogation of the May 17 Israel-Lebanon pact.

● The Syrians were also taken back by the recent resumption of Israeli air attacks in Lebanon. "For months they believed that we would not retaliate because they did not think the Israeli public would wear it", the official told me. "They now know differently."

● *The* "very *tough* stand" taken by the Americans, whom the Israeli Cabinet believes are no longer afraid to stand up to the Arab world, largely because of the blunting of the oil weapon.

The official argued that there was no contradiction in the recent strategic cooperation agreement with the United States and the strigent denials from Jerusalem and Washington of any collusion over last weekend's *air raids.*

He claimed that the Washington agreement had covered the broader field of cooperation rather than tactical coordination on the ground. "The Israel Defence Forces do not like tactical arrangements with other defence establishments. They prefer to operate independently," he said.

The official hinted strongly that more Israeli attacks in Lebanon could be expected because of the Government's assessment that Syria was unprepared to escalate the conflict into a Middle East war. The evidence is that the Syrians are prepared to fight to the last *Druze or* Palestinian militiamen, but not to the last Syrian soldier, he said.

According to *military* experts here, both the Druze and Palestinians have recently lost much of their motivation for fighting as Syrian proxies against Israel – the Druze because they have achieved their objective of control in the Chouf mountains, and the Palestinians because of the *bitter fighting inside the PLO.*

Sydney turns away damaged Invincible

From Tony Duboudin
Melbourne

The Australian Government has denied the British aircraft carrier *HMS Invincible* access to the Royal Australian Navy Dockyard at Garden Island in Sydney harbour because it refused to confirm or deny whether it was carrying nuclear weapons.

Invincible had been engaged *in* exercises *with elements of* the Royal Australian Navy and developed a vibration problem in its starboard propeller.

The official version from the British side on the incident was that Invincible would not be using the dockyard for "*operational reasons*".

Invincible is now moored off Woolloomooloo in a bay near the naval dockyard. Yesterday British naval divers were seen *going down to inspect* the propeller.

Mr Gordon Scholes, the Defence Minister, said it was Australian Government policy not to allow nuclear arms on Australian soil.



Balled out: Belgian referee Alfons Ponnet and riot police sprinting from the field in Milan under a hail of stones hurled by the angry crowd whose team, Internazionale, had just lost 2-3 *in an UEFA Cup match with* Austria Vienna.

Four agree to keep troops in Lebanon

From Ian Murray
Brussels

The urgent need to pool the information collected by the four countries making up the multinational "peacekeeping" force in the Lebanon, was agreed by the foreign ministers of the US, Italy France and Britain when they met over breakfast in Brussels yesterday. The view put forward by Sir Geofrey Howe was that they could all do more behind the scenes at the political level to try to bring about a reconciliation between the different factions in the country. It was also agreed that the security interests of Syria had to be respected.

At the same time, under strong pressure from the Americans, the Italians promised to maintain their force at present levels, although it was clear that *Signor Giulio Andreotti,* Foreign Minister, wanted some to be withdrawn.

"I think that we can and must return to the initial agreements with the Lebonese Government," he said later. "Those agreements are about 1,100 Italian troops in Beirut. Now we have doubled that number. But the withdrawal has to be done in the light of the new situation in Sabra and Chatila and in the *light of the Lebonese reconcili*ation process. Italy does not want to be responsible for failure of thr Geneva talks."

The ministers did not, however, talk about withdrawal, their spokesmen insisted afterwards, and M Claude Cheysson, the French Minister, said: "It would be completely wrong on *our* part to reduce our involvement while there is hope that the Geneva reconciliation talks can succeed."

It was the first time the four ministers had got together to discuss the Lebanon since their meeting in Paris on October 27.

They used the occasion to emphasize that the mission was a peaceful one with the twofold objective of helping reconciliation in the Lebanon and securing the withdrawal of all foreign forces. The intention was "to deescalate and not reescalate the violence" in the words of an American official.

As far as reconciliation was concerned, "there has been some movement, but we want to see more." The ministers felt "this was a two-way street." Although they wanted the government to act "there are other players and there is as much need for them to move."

In this context, the Americans agreed that the different countries in the multinational force had contacts "with different factions and different players." It was vital that they should pool their information so that they could have a better chance of helping the reconciliation process.

Marines may move to safer ground

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Pentagon is preparing to move US Marines from Beirut Airport either to safer ground in Lebanon or to amphibious *ships off the coast*, according to reports yesterday in several American newspapers.

The New York Times said the plan was still being worked out by the joint chiefs of staff and had not yet been presented to the National Security Council. However, the Administration is expected to welcome any workable suggestiom to improve the safety of the Marines.

Washington has been weighing various options since the bombing of the Marine headquarters on October 23, which *resulted in 240 deaths. A further* eight Marines were killed when their positions were shelled after last Sunday's air raid by US jets against targets in Syrian-occupied Lebanon.

One plan would involve moving the Marines south of the airport along the road to Tyre where they would be away from the factional strife of Beirut. They could also be based on amphibious vessels, sending in small units for short tours of duty to maintain a *visible presence.*

A Pentagon spokesman yesterday said there was no question of withdrawing the Marines altogether. There are almost 2,000 in Beirut as part of *the multinational peacekeeping* force.

Nato analyses nuclear chess game strategy

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

There was no great sense of surprise or excitement among Nato Foreign Ministers when they learnt of the way the Soviet Union had abruptly ended the strategic arms talks in Geneva.

"They have not walked out of the talks, they have simply not given a date when they will be *resumed.* They will be back." That is how British sources summed up the latest move by the Soviet Union in the diplomatic chess game over nuclear disarmament.

The ministers were meeting in Brussels for the Nato Council and the current state of East-West relations was top of the agenda for their long restricted session. Behind closed doors they were analysing the present Soviet strategy in the wake of the first deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe, when news arrived from Geneva of the Soviet delegation's move.

The session authorized the publication *of a 49-page docu*ment which tells the story from Nato's point of view of the so-called INF talks on medium-range nuclear missiles, up to the time the Soviet Union withdrew from them last month. Publication of the document is part *of Nato's attempt to improve its* image with the peace movement and to prove it has an "open chair" policy in all negotiations.

Introducing the document Mr Richard Burt, the American chairman of the Nato contact group on the IMF talks, revealed that the Soviet Union had just completed another SS20 base, raising the number deployed to 369, with 1,107 warheads between them.

He said that the *new site* is inside the Soviet Union and although it was in Asia.

He summed up what had happened in the INF talks this way. "The United States pursued the negotiations while the Soviet Union deployed but the Soviet Union suspended its participation in the negotiations *when the United States began to* deploy."

Russia goes to brink on Olympics

After a week in California, the Russians still refuse to say for sure whether they are definitely coming to the July, 1984, Olympic Games.

Marat Gramov, the Soviet *Sports Minister and chairman* of the National Olympic Committee, revealed that the Russians will leave it to the last possible legal minute to decide – about May 28, or two months before the Games are due to start.

Mr Gramov said: "We do not see any reasons why the Soviet *team would* stay away from the Games."

Australia to ditch Queen but not God

From Our Correspondent Melbourne

There may be no place for the Queen in the proposed oath of allegiance for intending new Australian citizians, but there is still a place for God.

A *move on* Tuesday in the parliamentary caucus of the ruling Labour Party to allow people seeking citizenship to make a pledge rather than an oath was soundly defeated. The caucus opted instead to offer a choice of pledge or oath.

Under amendments to Australia Citizenship Act, introduced *into* the Federal Parliament on Wednesday night, reference to the Queen will be deleted, the qulifying period for citizenship reduced from three years' residence in the previous eight years to two years in the previous five, a right of appeal established, the English-language requirement eased, and *British subject status* scrapped.

The amendments were outlined by Mr Stewart West, Minister for Immigration, in October. They will not come into force until next year

In the caucus debate on the question of an oath, or pledge, Mr West recommended that a pledge only be allowed, but he face stiff opposition. Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, indicated that he supported retention of the oath. Mr Hawke is the son of a clegyman, though he is now a professed agnostic.

The main thrust of the Citizenship Act is to confirm an Australian *identity*. Mr West said that abolition of the reference to the Queen was designed to end concern felt by many people at swearing allegiance to an overseas sovereign.

He said that the decision was taken after consultations begun by the previous Government and was designed to reflect that Australia was an independent *nation. The new "pledge of Australian citizenship"*, in both pledge and oath forms, calls for renouncing citizenship and allegiance to any state other than Australia

Two Britons disappear in Paris

Paris – The British Embassy last night confirmed the disappearance of two British businessmen in Paris in the past week, but said it had no information about the circumstances (Diana Geddes writes). *Both were last seen on* December 1 and were reported missing by their wives.

Mr Niall Campbell, aged 42, an ICI economic forecaster from Harrowgate, left his papers and belongings in the Hotel Vernet.

Mr Robert Graham, aged 27, an accountant from London, left *all* his belongings at the Hotel Athens.

French lift curb on currency

Paris (AFP) – Controversial restrictions on currency for foreign travel introduced by France last March are to be lifted from December 20.

The restrictions were badly received by the public and travel agents protested that their businesses were at risk.

Crew rescued

Chandler, Quebec (AP) – A drifting Peruvian cargo ship, the Unisol, ran aground and split in two in stormy weather in the Gulf of St Lawrence, spewing an estimated *500 tons of heavy oil* into the water. The crew of 35 was rescued by Canadian *helicopters.*

Monkeys saved

Kuala Lumpur (Reuter) – Malaysia will stop exporting monkeys from next June because it discovered the animals are being used in nuclear tests and tortured. Japan, Taiwan and Hongkong took last year's exports.

Drugs seized

Cairo (Reuter) – Egyptian border police thwarted an attempt to smuggle by sea three tonnes of hashish and other drugs believed to be worth about £7m. The drugs were seized on a boat near Alexandria.

Bunny ban

Singapore (Reuter) – Singapore has banned bargirls from wearing bunny costumes and swimsuits, and ordered that they should wear uniforms instead. Dimly-lit bars must improve lighting.

Nakasone blow

Tokyo (Reuter) – A poll published 10 days before Japan's general election shows a sharp decline in support for Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone's Cabinet, down by 8 per cent since June.



Yesterday's men (from left): Galtieri, Lami Dozo, Videla and Massera.

From heroes to villains

Junta limps off the stage

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

The military Government which slipped out of power in virtual disgrace this week had the tacit if not open support of most Argentines when it overthrew President Maria Estela Perón in March 1976 and started a "process of national reorganization".

The Perónist administration had been such a shambles that most breathed a sigh of relief when the three-man junta which had seized power stated its objectives: to end corruption, to strengthen the economy and to end terrorism.

Seven years and four military *juntas later, the "process"* is in full retreat. Five of the 12 officers who were in the junta at one time or another are on trial, countless other officers have been charged with corruption, the economy is groaning under an *unpayable $40bn (£27bn)* foreign debt and inflation is more than 400 per cent. In addition, the military is accused of atrocities in its fight against terrorism.

Señora Perón, who was tried by the military and kept under house arrest for five years, is expected to return from exile today to find two of the three officers who ousted her in somewhat different circumstances.

General Jorge Videla, a member of the first junta and the only president of the "process" to complete his self-imposed term, is being sued by a leading Perónist politician, accused of abuse of power

The former navy commander, Admiral Emilio Massera, who cultivated an image as the most dashing and charismatic member of the 1976 junta, has become the first to be *jailed for his role in one of more* than 7,000 "disappearances" which occurred after the coup.

Also on trial are the members of the junta which ordered the invasion of the Falkland islands last year. A military commission which investigated the conflict ruled that President Leopoldo Galtieri, the former navy commander, Admiral Jorge Anaya and the former air force chief, Brigadier-General Basilio Lami Dozo, should be held responsible for leading the country into a war for which it was not prepared.

General Galtieri, who had hopes of using a victory in the Falklands to launch his own political career, is accused of crimes during the conflict, which carry the death penalty. Admiral Anaya faces a similar sentence and General Lami Dozo could receive life imprisonment if convicted in the court-martial now under way.

Gemayel will spend two days in London

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon will pay his first official visit to this country on December 13 and 14, Downing Street announced yesterday.

He is coming at the invitation of Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, who will host a luncheon at Number 10 during talks on the Lebanon crisis next Wednesday. The president will also see Sir Geoffrey Howe at the Foreign Office, but it is not yet known which, if any, other Beirut ministers will be accompanying him.

Human rights mothers look to Alfonsín

From Our Correspondent
Buenos Aires

Relatives of more than 7,000 Argentines who have disappeared under military rule gathered yesterday for the last human rights demonstration before Señor Raul Alfonsin takes office as president.

The march was organized by the mothers of Plaza De Mayo, a group of women who have staged a weekly demonstration in front of Government House to demand information about their missing children from the military government.

One of the mothers said yesterday: "Next Thursday we will demonstrate under President Alfonsin. We are confident *that under a civilian govern*ment the courts will begin acting properly."

Human rights groups have documented more than 7,000 cases of people who disappeared after being kidnapped by *government security forces* and secret death squads.

UN seeks assurance on E African refugees

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

The United Nations and some Western states are pressing Kenya and Tanzania for assurances on the status of political refugees, following the recent forcible repatriation of some nationals of both countries.

Two officials of the UN High Commission for Refugees yesterday completed visits to both countries, during which they expressed concern to ministers and officials about the effect of a recent agreement that fugitive offenders will not be given asylum in another East African country.

Their visit follows reports here that the two self-confessed *leaders* of last year's Kenya coup attempt, who were granted political asylum in Tanzania, have been handed back to Kenya. They are *Air Force* private Hezekiah Ochuka and Sergeant Pancras Okumu.

In return, Kenya has handed over a Tanzanian airline pilot, Hattie Maghee, who escaped from jail in Tanzania earlier this year after being accused of participation in a coup plot

Neither government has made any statement on the repatriations, but neither has denied press reports that they have taken place.

The two UN officials, M Michel Moussy and M Chefeke Dessalegh, have expressed concern that the accepted principles of asylum for refugees have been ignored.

Some Western governments, who are important aid donors for the two countries, have also expressed their concern and are pressing for a statement.

The two countries are understood to have agreed with each other that the legal provision which applied here under the East African Community – for the automatic repatriation of fugitive offenders within East Africa – has never been repealed

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

The most telling moment when Mrs Thatcher made her statement on the Athens *summit to the House of* Commons on Wednesday came when Mr Geoffrey Rippon agreed emphatically with the stand she had taken. The man who negotiated British entry to the Community more than 10 years ago was accepting the policy which some people believe might take Britain out again.

It was a measure of the broad support that Mrs Thatcher enjoys on this issue, not just across party lines but also across the more significant division between European enthusiasts and critics. Dr Owen was unequivocal in the backing he offered on behalf of the SDP. The only *important* dissentient was Mr Kinnock, who misjudged not only the mood of the House of Commons but also the tactical situation.

There is no party political advantage to be derived from attacking Mrs Thatcher for the line she took in Brussels. The *moment when she might* become politically vulnerable will be if she makes concessions in order to do a deal. The best tactics for Mr Kinnock would have been to congratulate her on her stand at Athens and to seek assurance that she would not in future deviate by one inch from *the positon she adopted there.* He should have tried to tie her ankles with his felicitations.

The *breadth* of Mrs Thatcher's political support on this question comes partly from a recognition of British public opinion prudent politicians. But it comes even more from an appreciation that the Community will have to be changed if Britain is not to be perpetually in conflict with its partners. *Ardent Europeans* like Mr Rippon are not wanting to break up the community. They believe, on the contrary, that reformis necessary for its future success.

Double advantage for Britain

If present trends were allowed to continue unchecked, Britain would in due course be bled white. The accession of Spain and Portugal, both relatively poor countries with large farming secotrs, will considerably increase the burden on the Community Budget.

That need not necessarily raise the cost to Britain. There are more than compensating savings that could be made in the common agricultural policy, most obviously in the financing of *milk production.*

But if the pressures on Britain are great, so are they on *other members of the* Community. It will not be possible for them to meet Britian's requirements without serious political embarrassment. In France, for example, there has for some years been an awareness of the intellectual case for reforming the CAP. But an intellectual awareness is *not the same as a political* willingness. It is rather the attitude of St Augustine when *he prayed:* "Let me be chaste, O Lord but not yet".

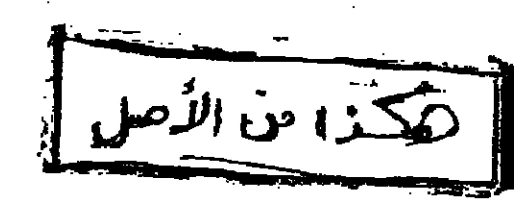
The appeal of chastity may become somewhat greater if the alternative is seen to be death. The collapse of the CAP would be even more painful than its modification for those countries with large farming sectors. They need a settlement even *more than Britain.*

Nonetheless, it requires political courage for any political leader to act on his country's long-term interests rather than his own short-term convenience. So one cannot take it for granted that the impasse is bound to be resolved.

***In these circumstances* Britain has a double advantage. The British people showed in the general election campaign that they would prefer to remain in the Community. But they have no sentimental attachment to it.**

The second advantage is one of timing. Britain can afford to wait while the pressures mount on the other members. Mrs Thatcher remarked significantly in the House of Commons of Wednesday: "The European Community is not in default with us on its obligations. Were it to *default on* its obligations, then we would have to take steps to safeguard our position."

This suggests that Britain will do nothing until the Community's money begins to run out. Then the EEC *would* be forced to reduce its agricultural payments and individual governments would start to make up the difference. At that point, the British Government could claim that the Com*munity was no longer fulfilling* its obligations, that the basis of competition had been changed, and that Britain would therefore be justified in withholding its contributions.



Sainsbury's Vintage Selection. It reads like the wine list in a good restaurant. Until you come to the prices.



If you're a wine buff who's been buffeted by rising prices you'll welcome our Vintage Selection.

You'll find the quality familiar and the prices, quite often, nostalgic.

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All of the wines are ready to drink now though some are suitable for laying down.

Many of them come with established reputations like the Puligny Montrachet or Château Grand Puy Ducasse.

Some are more unusual like the delicious dessert wine Moulin Touchais from the Loire – or our dry red wine from Portugal called Quinta Da Bacalhôa.

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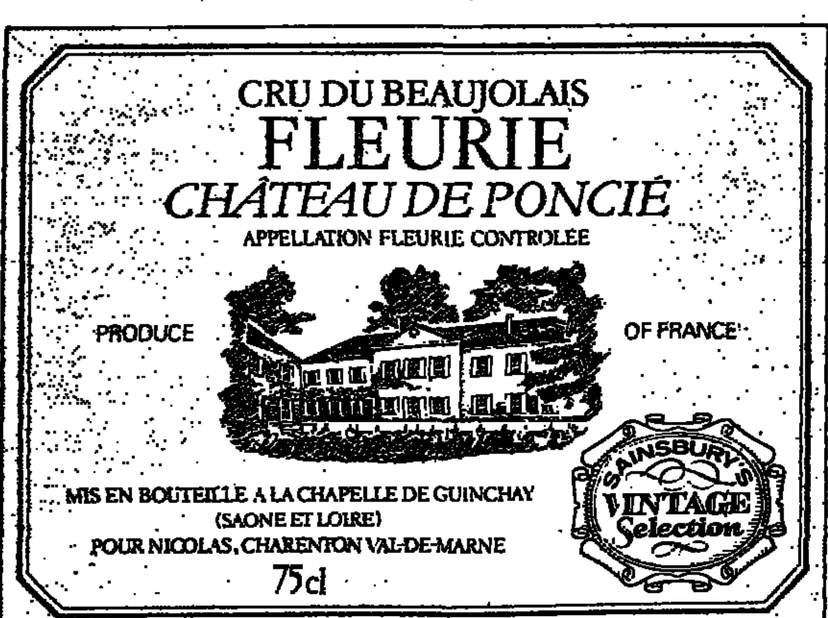
You'll find the complete list in 60 of our largest stores and a further 160 stores will carry a good selection. (If you discover some wines not on this list, don't worry, we're constantly adding to our selection and all the wines have been vetted.)

We hope you'll enjoy reading about the wines below and that you'll be tempted to turn a wine list into something even more satisfying.

A shopping list.

1. Château Grand Puy Ducasse 1979 Pauillac. A classic Claret from one of the most important communes in the Médoc. Full bodied with good fruit and tannin this wine will develop over the next three or four years into a fine wine of distinction. £7.45.

2. Château Jean-Fauré 1979 Grand Cru St. Émilion. Like all St. Emilions this wine will drink younger than the great growth clarets and is already soft and fruity. The 1979 is delightfully drinkable and offers, along with elegant medium weight, a bouquet with a hint of violets. £5.45.



3. Château de Poncié 1981 Fleurie. The true charm and distinction of one of the most delicate of the Beaujolais. Granite soil and the Gamay grape have combined in one of the more southerly Beaujolais Villages to produce a wine which is soft, fruity and delicately perfumed. Superb with cold meats or cheese – but many would say with anything. £4.35.

4. Château Tourteau Chollet 1980 Graves. Graves, a huge area of wine production to the south of Bordeaux is famed for its rich, slightly spicy red wines. Small proprietors abound in the area, producing wines which are firm when young and pay for keeping. Here is a pleasant fruity example of medium weight which will go happily with most meats or cheese. £3.60.

5. Château du Bousquet 1981 Côtes de Bourg. Less well known than the Médocs which lie opposite, the wines of the Côtes de Bourg offer excellent value for money. The best of the slopes, near the river, include the vines from which this splendid example is formed. Although it will keep, it can be enjoyed now. £3.20.

6. Gevrey Chambertin 1978. Amongst the richest and most enduring of all the great Burgundies, this full-bodied and powerful wine, from the celebrated village on the slopes of the Côte de Nuits, will be enjoyed with the richer meats. £8.95.

7. Côte de Brouilly 1982. Produced on the granite soil of the most northerly of the nine nominated "cru" villages which produce the best of the Beaujolais. Côte de Brouilly is fruity and fresh. £3.45.

8. Domaine André Brunel 1980 – Châteauneuf du Pape. Châteauneuf du Pape is recognised the world over as the finest of the southern Rhônes. Dark, strong and long-lived. This is a fine example from the rocky vineyard of one of the leading growers and two or three years more bottle age will improve it. £4.95.

9. Gigondas 1981. Like its more famous neighbour Châteauneuf du Pape, Gigondas is a deep, hearty, robust red wine, taking its character from the Grenache grapes which predominate in the blend. It will hold its own with game, roasts, casseroles and all cheese dishes. £4.35.

10. Château la Borie – Rhône 1982. This is the product of a vineyard which was totally replanted 20 years ago. (It has grown in reputation as a result.) The presence of Syrah and Grenache in the blend gives the slight peppery sensation on the palate which is so characteristic of a Rhône wine. £2.99.



11. Château Barreyres 1979 Haut-Médoc. The Médoc, on the west bank of the river, is the most important red wine district of Bordeaux. Here, from just north of the Margaux, is an excellent fruity claret of medium weight, which has been made with great care and would even improve with a few years bottle age. £3.55.

12. Domaine du Colombier 1982 Chinon. Though less well-known there are some fine fresh light reds from the gravel soils of the Loire. This one has a distinct fruitiness and pleasant acidity. It is best drunk young and will happily accept a degree of chilling. £3.75.

13. Château de Gourgazaud 1980 or 1982 – Minervois. From the hilly country of the Languedoc-Roussillon but with more of the Cabernet Sauvignon grape than is usual. This makes for a distinctive medium-bodied wine of charm – robust enough for most meats and cheeses. £4.99. (Magnum.)

14. Clos de La Mouchère 1980 or 1981 – Puligny Montrachet. Another great classic dry French white wine. Produced to the north of Meursault and lacking some of its softness it is, perhaps, the ultimate accompaniment to oysters but enhances any fish or white meat. £8.45.

15. Domaine De La Bizolière 1982 Savennières. The white Anjou wines to the western end of the Loire Valley are characteristically dry and full bodied – some say with the crispness of new apples. Here is a fine example, best drunk young and served chilled, it is slightly flowery with good acidity. £3.60.

16. Sancerre Les Perriers 1982. This was a good year in the Loire, where the Sauvignon grapes grown on limestone produce elegant, dry white wines. This fresh and fruity wine from Verdigny Commune is best drunk young and slightly chilled. £4.65.



17. Meursault Moillard 1980. Meursault's Pinot Chardonnay grapes provide some of the world's great white wines. Rich, smooth and dry, but mellow. This is a fine example, soft and full, which will mature and improve for two or three years. £6.95.

18. Moulin Touchais 1964 – Anjou. The valley of the Loire shelters the Chenin Blanc vines from which are made some exceptional white wines. In the limestone "caves" at Doué la Fontaine lies a huge selection of some of France's best kept wine secrets. Moulin Touchais is one. The perfect dessert wine with plenty of fruit and a balanced sweetness best revealed when chilled. £5.75.

19. Château Tertre du Moulin 1982 Entre-deux-Mers. Between the "two seas" of the Dordogne and the Garonne lies a vast area of wine production. The whites of this area are allowed the "appellation". Here is a crisp, fruity dry white wine from a grower with an established reputation for consistent quality. £2.75.

20. Clos St. Georges 1981 Graves Supérieures. Long before Graves was known for the red wines with which it is now most associated, it had a high reputation for sweet white wines. Clos St. Georges is found on the borders of Barsac. It has depth, style and length, which come through impressively on the palate. £2.99.

21. Château de Beaulieu 1980 Côteaux Du Layon. Beaulieu is one of only six communes in this sheltered area to the south of the Loire to be granted the "appellation". This is an exceptional medium sweet white wine with lots of fruit and an acidity of considerable length which give it great style and depth. At its best lightly chilled with fresh fruit. £2.80.

22. Muscat de Beaumes-De-Venise. This is a naturally sweet white wine from the southern end of the Rhône Valley. The sun has ample time to develop the sugar and add a delicate perfume and flavour. A dessert wine of great distinction. £4.25.

23. Chablis Premier Cru 1981 or 1982. One of the best known dry white wines of France from the small area of Chablis some 100 miles south east of Paris. Only the finer vineyards are designated Premier Cru. A classic wine ideal with white meat or fish. £4.35.

24. Château des Bidaudières Vouvray 1982. The Chenin Blanc grapes growing around this small village near Tours in the Loire Valley produce a medium dry white wine with good fruit and acidity. This wine will also improve on keeping. £3.45.

25. Uerziger Würzgarten Auslese 1975 or 1976 Moselle. The Riesling wines of Würzgarten are sheltered by mountains and this fragrant and spicy sweet wine is produced from selected (auslese) grapes. Serve chilled with desserts or as a special aperitif. £5.99.



26. Domaine De La Bretonnerie 1982, Muscadet De Sèvre et Maine Sur Lie. This Muscadet is named after two of the Loire's great tributaries. It has the added fruitiness which results from the grapes remaining longer on the lees ("sur lie"). Ideal with fish – especially shellfish. A light, dry and refreshing white wine. £2.99.

27. Kiedricher Heiligenstock Kabinett 1982 Rheingau. From the pride of Germany's wineland come some splendid white wines. This one is no exception. Elegant and well-balanced it is a distinguished accompaniment to most white meat and fish. £4.20.

28. Deidesheimer Herrgottsacker Kabinett 1981 or 1982 Rheinpfalz. Wines from the Palatinate are rich, well flavoured, and lively and Deidesheimer is regarded as one of the best villages. This is a light medium dry white wine and versatile enough for fish, poultry or a chilled aperitif. £4.10.

29. Apetloner Gewürztraminer Beerenauslese 1981 or 1982. Specially selected and overripe grapes from the Gewürztraminer vines at Apetlon in the Burgenland of Austria, produce a wine of concentrated sweetness and depth to compare with the best of the Sauternes. Lightly chilled, it's superb with fruit or dessert. £4.95.

30. Amarone Pasqua 1978. This is a Recioto della Valpolicella – not to be confused with the more popular wine of the latter name. Only the grapes from the "ears" of the vine which have begun to dry in the sun are used. The result is an impressive dry red wine of high quality and full flavour. £3.95.

31. Quinta da Bacalhôa 1981. Portuguese red wines have been a rather well-kept secret for too long. This one produced from Cabernet Sauvignon grapes, matured in chestnut casks, is similar to a dry, red Bordeaux. Like all Portuguese reds, it will improve with keeping. £3.65.

Good wine costs less at Sainsbury's.

Democrats hope to beat Reagan with help of recession-hit blacks

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

The main significance of the Rev Jesse Jackson's decision to seek the Democratic presidential nomination lies not in the number of votes he will get at next year's party convention but in the impact it will have on the nation's black electorate – in particular on attempts to increase voter registration among blacks.

Mr Jackson is, in effect, riding the crest of a new political awakening among America's 27 million blacks. This process began during the Carter Administration but has accelerated rapidly since President Reagan came to office.

The reason for this is fairly simple. Despite the advances achieved during the civil rights campaign of the 1960s, blacks remain significantly worse off than whites. Unemployment among blacks is double that of whites and their average income is half.

Whatever gains they made under President Carter, they believe these have been largely lost during the past three years. Many blacks feel the Reagan Administration is unsympathetic to their interests and that they have been forced to bear the brunt of its cutbacks in social spending.

The first tangible evidence of this black political renaissance appeared during the 1982 congressional elections, when black voting participation increased by 6 per cent over the previous off-year elections, an increase double that for whites.

This rise in turnout was the direct result of a black voter registration drive which has been under way for three years. Between 1980 and 1982, an additional 573,000 blacks have gone on the rolls. More than 600,000 others have been added since the summer of 1982 and their numbers are increasing by thousands a week.



Mr Jackson: Harvesting black resentment

According to the Joint Centre for Political Studies in Washington, black voter registration now stands at about 10.5 million in total. there are 17.6 million blacks of voting age, most of them concentrated in the South and the industrial areas of the North.

Mr Jackson has said he hopes five million more blacks will have registered as voters by next November's presidential election. Although his expectations may be over-optimistic, political observers believe an increase of two million would not be unreasonable.

As it is, the overwhelming majority of blacks vote for the Democratic Party, an increase on this scale could tip the balance in the Democrats' favour in 11 states which were captured by Mr Reagan in 1980 (Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia).

For instance, in Arkansas Mr Reagan beat Mr Carter by only just over 5,000 votes, yet there were some 85,000 unregistered blacks in the state. Similarly in New York, Mr Reagan's margin of victory was only 165,000 and yet the number of unregistered blacks amounted to almost a million.

The impact which increased registration can have has been demonstrated in a number of mayoral races this year, notably in Chicago, where black turnout increased by 120,000, and Philadelphia, where it went up by about 100,000. Both cities elected black mayors for the first time in their history.

More than 240 American cities now have black mayors. They include four of the country's six biggest cities.

Although Mr Jackson's bid for the Democratic nomination is the most visible expression of this new mood of black assertiveness, black political leaders are hoping to make use of their growing numerical strength to expand their presence in the House of Representatives, which stands at 20 at present, and in state legislatures, which now have about 340.

They also believe they can help to defeat such notable right-wingers as Senator Jesse Helms, of North Carolina, and Senator Strom Thurmond, of South Carolina, as well as a number of Southern conservative Democrats, known as "Boll weevils", who enabled President Reagan to get his controversial economic programme approved by Congress.

The main question that remains to be answered is whether blacks will vote in such large numbers as are now being predicted if, as seems certain, Mr Jackson loses the Democratic nomination. A number of black leaders, originally opposed to Mr Jackson's candidature, believe blacks will unite behind any Democrat who has a chance of getting Mr Reagan out of the White House. But they concede that much of the enthusiasm which Mr Jackson generates at grassroots level will have been lost.

Kidnap victim: Hooded guerrillas guarding Señor Jaime Betancur, brother of the President of Colombia, at a press conference before releasing him. They kidnapped him a fortnight ago.

Bangladesh bid to cut down the Russians

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Diplomats in Dhaka are watching with acute interest the outcome of the Bangladesh attempt to cut the Soviet mission to size.

"It is the biggest anti-Soviet step that any non-aligned country has ever made", said one Western envoy. "A number of other non-aligned countries might say 'We've been wanting to do that for a long time', if the Bangladesh Government can accomplish it."

There appears to be clear evidence that the Russians have been behaving badly in the country. Their embassy, with 38 diplomats and nearly 90 non-diplomatic Russian staff, is by far the largest in the capital, and there is very little by way of trade or aid which could fully occupy such a number.

Local newspapers claim that demonstrators who turned a peaceful sit-down strike outside the government secretariat building on November 28 into a full-blooded riot were in Soviet pay. Some, it was said, were found with Russian cigarettes in their pockets, and Russian-owned vehicles are said to have been used to transport members of extremist opposition parties to this and other demonstrations.

This may be rather fanciful, but there seems little doubt that the martial law régime of Lieutenant-General H. M. Ershad, had something more solid to go on, since next day it called in the Soviet Ambassador, Mr Valentin Pavelivich Stepanov, to ask him to cut his diplomatic staff by 18, and to close the Soviet cultural centre.

The government is also thought likely to have been angered by what is regarded as an arrogant disregard of Bangladesh's feelings when thugs badly beat up an Afghan emigré doctor who was working here.

Dr Aziz Samidi, a paediatrician, who chose exile from Kabul soon after the Soviet intervention, was working at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research in Dhaka. He was highly outspoken about the evils of the intervention in his country.

On November 24 he was returning home after attending a dinner when his car was trapped outside his house by three others with yellow diplomatic plates. Two European men got out of each, speaking in what Dr Samidi said was Russian, and savagely beat him, damaging his teeth and breaking his jaw.

Dr Samidi has since been flown to America, but the incident was reported to the police, and in the press.

Rapist says yes to castration sentence

From Trevor Fishlock
New York

One of three men convicted of rape and told by a judge to choose between 30 years in prison and castration says he would prefer to be castrated.

"Either way I could be destroyed", Roscoe Brown, aged 27, said. "But to be isolated and not able to contribute to the world would be more damaging to me than to undergo castration. A 30-year sentence would do nothing to rehabilitate me."

The extraordinary choice offered to the three men by judge Victor Pyle at Anderson, South Carolina, has started a controversy. The judge has been strongly criticized and warmly applauded. He passed sentence after hearing what he called the most brutal case in his experience. The three men pleaded guilty to raping and torturing a woman of 23.

The men's lawyers have called the sentence "barbaric" and are appealing to South Carolina Supreme Court. Judge Pyle, who has defended his sentence as "appropriate under the circumstances", specified surgical castration but later said he would not object to the men being dosed with a female hormone to achieve "chemical castration".

Brown, who is married with two children, told reporters who talked to him in his prison cell that he had chosen castration because of his fear of a long jail term. Another of the men said he would probably choose castration and the third said he would probably opt for prison because he wanted to have children.

The idea of castrating rapists clearly has an emotional appeal, but it has been attacked on a number of grounds. Many people object that evidently violent men would be able to go free, that rape is a crime of violence rather than sex, that castration would not make them less violent and that it would not necessarily make them incapable of raping again.

Harmony in talks on Hongkong

From David Bonavia, Hongkong

The Anglo-Chinese talks on the future of Hongkong here adjourned yesterday on a note of harmony which contrasted with the anti-British propaganda by China that accompanied some earlier sessions.

A joint statement in Peking said that the 15-month-old negotiations "reviewed the course of the talks and the progress made so far". It demanded that a general framework of agreement be reached by September next year, and a Chinese spokesman said on Wednesday that any "turmoil" in Hongkong would result in the territory's being reoccupied by China before the accepted 1997 deadline.

The British delegation was headed this week for the last time by Sir Percy Cradock, the Ambassador, who is returning to London soon. At the next session in January the senior British negotiator will be Mr Richard Evans.

Sir Edward Youde, Governor of Hongkong, who also attends the talks, is considered by the Chinese side to be merely a member of the British delegation, with special authority to speak for the people of Hongkong.

China has promised that Hongkong can have internal autonomy after 1997 and retain its capitalist system and way of life – according to some reports, for 50 years.

Many well-to-do and qualified people are already leaving or making plans to settle abroad, taking their capital with them. The territory's economy has recovered somewhat since the devaluation of the dollar last September.

Jardine's, Hongkong's most famour old trading company, has announced it will not sponsor the fireworks display it usually lays on at the Chinese New Year, because of the depressed economic climate.

Lambsdorff charged with corruption

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the Minister of Economics, was yesterday charged formally with corruption. The Bonn public Prosecutor accused him in the district court of accepting DM135,000 (about £34,000) from the Flick Group of companies in return for tax concessions.

The prosecutor announced 10 days ago that he would bring charges against the count and four others named in the affair, but was unable to do so until parliament lifted the minister's immunity. Count Lambsdorff was among those members of the Bundestag who voted to do so last week.

The indictment has still not been served on the count by yesterday evening. While maintaining his innocence, he has refused to make any statement about his future until reading the charges, which he is expected to receive today, but Chancellor Helmut Kohl has said the count would resign, if the case came to trial.

Britain takes UN to task on rights

From Zoriana Pysariwsky
New York

Countries which violate human rights must be censured irrespective of their political leanings, Britain has urged the United Nations.

Mr John Margetson, the British representative, told the human rights committee of the General Assembly that double standards and selectivity were unacceptable.

In the past, atrocities in Pol Pot's Cambodia and Idi Amin's Uganda had been overlooked. Now only violations in El Salvador, Guatemala and Chile were being considered.

Many delegations, particularly those from Western Europe, share the discontent over selectivity, but they feel that pressure should not be eased from right-wing Latin America simply for the sake of evenhandedness.

The Swedish representative, Mr Anders Ferm, asked whether the killings of Guatemalan peasants should go unnoticed because a majority could not be mustered against human rights violations in the Soviet Union or whether the Assembly should refrain from passing resolutions on El Salvador because the Assembly would not deal with the *situation in Iran*.

"Much as we object to the selective approach, would we refuse to help a drowning person because two others are drowning beyond our reach?"

Bihari refugees given hope of resettlement

From Our Own Correspondent
Dhaka

The future of the Bihari Muslims, non-Bengalis trapped in the former eastern province of Pakistan after Bangladesh's war for independence, looked brighter yesterday after an announcement by Lord Ennals, chairman of the Asia Committee of the British Refugee Council.

Lord Ennals, touring Asia to look at refugee problems, disclosed that a Muslim charity has pledged to raise the $200m necessary to resettle in Pakistan the estimated 211,000 Bihari still living in camps.

The charity is Rabita al-Alam al-Islami (the World Muslim League), based in Jiddah and financed at least in part by the Saudi Government, which undertakes welfare, humanitarian and religious work

Russians claim Sakharov is mad

From Richard Owen
Moscow

A Soviet official hinted yesterday that the dissident physicist and human rights campaigner, Dr Andrei Sakharov was mentally ill, and that his views on nuclear disarmament proved he was deranged.

Mr Vitaly Ruben, a senior Supreme Soviet official, described Dr Sakharov as a "sick person". Dr Sakharov was exiled from Moscow to the closed town of Gorkiy in 1980 for his human rights activities. Mr Ruben claimed Dr Sakharov had sent a letter to the United States "urging the American administration to make a nuclear strike at the Soviet Union". In doing so he had called for nuclear catastrophe, Mr Ruben remarked, adding: "A helthy person does not do such things".

Dr Sakharov, the "father" of the Soviet hydrogen bomb, is well [illegible] achieve [illegible] weapons [illegible] avoidance of nuclear war through nuclear balance.

Dr S[illegible] Bonner, [illegible] recently [illegible] feared [illegible] authorities would [illegible] her husband in a prison [illegible] hospital.

He lives in isolation in Gorkiy, and is in poor health. He has almost no contact with fellow scientists. Mrs Sakharov has complained that he is not allowed access to the Academy of Sciences hospital in Moscow.

Mr Ruben said the Kremlin had banished Dr Sakharov to Gorkiy out of "humane considerations" to ensure his "peace of mind". He was writing research papers for publication in Russia and America, and was "constantly in touch with fellow physicists".

Soviet doctors were "taking all necessary measures" to restore Dr Sakharov's health, and were treating him at home, Mr Ruben said. The authorities had acted with the necessary tact.

Moscow's dwindling band of dissidents is expected to appear on Pushkin Square tomorrow for the traditional protest marking human rights day. Mr Ruben said yesterday that Russia observed social, political and economic rights whereas the West did not. There was no unemployment in Russia, and those prosecuted were not dissidents but anti-social criminals.

Mr Oleg Radzinsky, a founder member of the unofficial peace movement, yesterday wrote to Western correspondents in Moscow from a Siberian labour camp to condemn President Reagan and repudiate his support and help. Mr Radzinsky said his name was being used for "provocative purposes". Letters from Siberian exiles do not normally reach Western journalists.

Cheap ways to avoid 15 million baby toll

By Tony Samstag

About 15 million children, the equivalent of the entire under-five population of the United States, or of Britain, Italy, Spain and West Germany combined, have died in the past year, although a number of low-cost programmes could cut that death rate by half, the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) said yesterday.

Launching its report on *The State of the World's Children 1984*, the agency noted that an equal number of young children in the developing world were left physically or mentally handicapped by disease or malnutrition. The report, which analyses child mortality and life expectancy figures from 130 countries, draws on studies from 20 of the poorest which suggest that "drastic gains in child well-being can indeed be achieved at a relatively low cost and in a relatively short time – despite economic recession".

In addition traditional techniques of food supplements, family spacing and female education, Unicef recommends four others: oral rehydration therapy for treating diarrhoeal infections, which kill five million children a year; growth monitoring, to ensure more efficient use of what food is available; expended immunization schemes and the promotion of breast-feeding.

Standards of child health care are improving so slowly, Unicef says, that "more than 70 nations will still have infant death rates considerably higher than 50 per 1,000 by the end of this century. And in those 70 nations, three out of five of the world's children are born".

Such indicators as children's *height-for-age* parallel rising infant mortality figures even in some areas of the United States and the Soviet Union to suggest that the world recession has had a severe impact on the state of the world's children.

The State of the World's Children 1984 is available from Oxford University Press in a variety of editions, or from the UK Committee for Unicef, 55 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3NB.

Walesa's plea to be put to Nato

Washington

The Reagan Administration is to give serious study to the call by Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, for an end to Western economic sanctions against Poland.

The United States will consult closely with its allies on the matter, the President said in a short press statement on Wednesday.

"We have great respect and admiration for Lech Walesa, the courageous leader of Poland's free trade union movement," he said. "We shall give immediate and serious consideration to the issues he has raised . . .".

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, will be able to discuss Polish developments with allied Foreign Ministers while in Brussels for the current Nato ministerial council session.

The White House announced in early November that the United States had agreed with its Western allies to discuss the rescheduling of the 1981 Polish debt to Western governments.

However, the other main US sanctions, imposed when martial law was declared in Poland in December 1981, would remain in effect. These include the prohibition of economic aid and sale of high technology.

Coming up roses: Jane Russell in Los Angeles making her first appearance in a television series after a long absence from Hollywood – during a break in filming "The Yellow Rose".

Belgrade accuses Sofia of meddling

From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade

Yugoslavia will increase its defence spending next year because of the unstable situation in Albania and the climate of suspicion generated by the superpowers.

Admiral Branko Mamula, the Defence Secretary, has also accused Bulgaria of trying to take advantage of the Yugoslav-Albanian rift.

The one per cent increase is still below the minimum guaranteed by law during Tito's life. It comes at a time of economic difficulties and a large foreign debt, which led to austerity measures and cuts.

At least four Albanian ministers, including those of defence and internal affairs, were recently shot as close associates of the former premier, Mr Mehmet Shehu, who committed suicide two years ago and was subsequently accused by Mr Enver Hoxha of plotting to assassinate him.

The Albanian leader is 75 and although his recent birthday was celebrated with great pomp, he did not attend and is believed to be ill.

Computer error blamed in Korean jet disaster

From John Best, Ottawa

An inquiry by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has concluded that a computer programming error probably started the chain of events that led to the destruction of Korean Airline's Flight 007 over Soviet territory on September 1.

All 269 people on board the jetliner flying from Anchorage, Alaska, to Seoul died when it was shot down by the Russians.

The inquiry, set up despite Soviet objections in the wake of the disaster, found that a navigational computer was probably programmed incorrectly, according to a CBC news report from Montreal.

ICAO experts in Montreal, where the organization has its headquarters, said that an error in placing coordinates could have led to the airliner following a more easterly course across the Pacific than it should have followed.

"You have to make the assumption that the crew wasn't paying much attention", an ICAO source is quoted as saying.

ICAO withheld comment on the report, although one official said that navigational error had been considered from the beginning the "most plausible explanation" of why the plane was off course.

The report of the inquiry board, which is made up of *ICAO specialists, will be debated* by the council of the organization on Monday. No decision has been made as to whether or when it will be made public.

Winning the diplomatic war

Burma bomb exploded in North's face

In a concluding article from Seoul, David Watts, examines South Korea's foreign policy successes and the adverse effect they have had on relations with North Korea.

SOUTH KOREA
Part 2

Though the shooting stopped 30 years ago, South Korea's diplomatic contest with the North often looks more like war than diplomacy.

The Rangoon bombing which killed 17 South Korean officials, including four Cabinet ministers, appears to have been an attempt not only to cause chaos in the South by assassinating President Chun Doo Hwan but also to limit Seoul's trading and diplomatic contacts.

At all cost, the North wants to prevent South Korea's recognition by the international community and frustrate Seoul's desire for United Nations representation.

The very presence of President Chun's big delegation was evidence of the South's success in winning contacts in Burma and building up a diplomatic relationship, which directly challenges the previously close Burmese links with the communist Party in North Korea.

Burma's "derecognition" of the North after carefully assessing the evidence in the bombing was a stunning blow for the North, given Burma's reputation as the only truly non-aligned nation in the world. It will also damage North Korea's standing in the non-aligned movement, where it had been something of a foil to Cuban ambitions.

The immediate diplomatic benefits of the Bombing for Seoul have come in the limits that Japan has set on private contracts with the North and the reversal of an American ruling under which social contracts between Americans and North Koreans would have been permitted if the initiative came from the northerner.

But that is likely to be the extent of American interest in lessening tension between Seoul and Pyongyang, and the United States has no desire to back the North further into a corner, bearing in mind its military superiority over the South and its reputation for being unpredictable.

Recognition by the Government of Pakistan has been another gain for the Seoul Government, but that – apart the 20 or so countries that took sanctions against the North or issued condemnatory statements after the Burmese verdict – must be considered a rather modest response in view of the viciousness of the attack.

South Korean diplomats are working hard to secure recognition from other countries, with Egypt topping the list of possibilities. Other potential targets are in Africa, where the North has friends.



Lee Bum Suk: His death backfired on the North.

But some diplomats friendly to Seoul believe it has proved its point and there is no need to pursue its recognition campaign so aggressively. It has yielded some plums; the interparliamentary union has met in Seoul and over the next few years there is a visit by the Pope in 1984, the International Monetory Fund-World Bank meeting in 1985, the Asian Games in 1986, for which the North had been competing, and the Olympics in 1988.

The principal remaining targets for Korea are in the Third World, but "the countries of the Third World are getting a bit tired of hearing the Koreans talking incessantly about two things, trade and North Korea, when many of them see the dispute with the North as a purely internal Korean question," one Western diplomat said.

Some of the opposition in Seoul even believe that President Chun's energetic diplomatic checkmating of the North provokes incidents like the Rangoon bomb.

The foreign Ministry maintains that it is in favour of negotiations with the North without preconditions, though there is obviously no question of that at the moment. It is unfortunate that the one figure in the South Korean Government with which the North would have been willing to treat was the late Foreign Minister, Mr Lee Bum Suk. So much was made clear in a February message from the North, which some feel the South should have sounded out despite some *unacceptable preconditions*.

Despite those conditions, there were signs the North was putting out feelers; for the first time it referred to the political parties in the South by name, whereas previously it had refused to acknowledge their existence, and it used the South Korean term for "Korea" rather than the word commonly used in the North.

In theory, time is on the side of the South. South Korean officials believe their expanding economic base will give them military superiority over the North. In the meantime, there hangs over the country President Kim Il Sung's ambition to unite the peninsula by force before his death.

President Kim is already 71, and no-one in the South forgets that he has what is said to be the biggest commando in the world, 100,000 strong, to back him.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

CONTRARY TO ANY PREVIOUS ADVICE, THERE ARE ONE OR TWO THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT A WINE.

1 Do you know that the Muscadet vineyards are the only ones in Brittany to be classified by the Appellation Contrôlée authorities?

2 Are you aware that the grape variety grown in this area is the Melon de Bourgogne, which has been re-christened as the Muscadet?

3 Do you know that it was the monks in the seventeenth century who first brought vines to this area of France?

4 Are you familiar with the three areas of the Loire valley: dry wines in the west (Muscadet) and the east (Sancerre), with the sweeter wines in the middle (Anjou)?

5 Are you aware that traditionally Muscadet is the first region to be picked every year?

6 Do you realise that Muscadet is not only picked young, it is bottled young and is immediately ready for drinking?

7 Do you know, Muscadet sur lie means bottled directly from the barrels where it has fermented on the lees?

8 Do you know that wines of a 'sur lie' nature, if racked, will oxidise and flatten?

9 Do you ensure that for chilled white wine the glasses are cold?

10 Are you aware that it's the natural carbon dioxide in a wine which is responsible for its freshness?

11 Do you realise that the different productions of separate communes are almost impossible to find as they are not classified in this area?

12 Are you aware that there are three distinct wine growing areas: Muscadet, Muscadet des Coteaux de la Loire and Muscadet de Sèvre-et-Maine?

13 Do you know it's the latter of these areas that is regarded as being the best?

14 Do you realise that altogether there are 22,500 acres of Muscadet grown near the mouth of the River Loire?

15 Do you know that Appellation Contrôlée not only guarantees the origin of Muscadet but also ensures that high standards are met?

16 Do you realise that the Appellation Contrôlée law sets a minimum alcohol level for all AC wines?

17 Do you know that Muscadet is one of the few French wines to have a recommended upper limit on its alcoholic strength, so it retains its freshness and fruity flavour?

18 When the French call a wine 'gouleyant' are you aware it means a light wine both in terms of taste and strength?

19 In the Loire the drier, lighter wines come from the areas with chalky soil, heavier wines from the areas of marl. Did you realise this is because marl stores more heat?

20 Do you know that the finer a wine is, the more fragrance it will have?

21 Muscadet is the natural accompaniment to shellfish and seafood. Did you realise this is because it's grown close to the Atlantic?

22 Muscadet does not need to be decanted. Do you realise this is because it 'throws' little or no sediment?

23 The rule is that if Muscadet is to accompany a dish, it is the best wine to assist in the cooking. Are you aware of this?

24 Are you also aware that if you add wine during the cooking of a dish, it should always be heated first?

25 Do you also know that the finer a white wine the less its subtleties should be masked by cold?

26 When cooling a white wine, are you aware that one or two hours at most in a refrigerator is sufficient?

27 Do you know the rule that a Muscadet wine should not be served as cold as a Blanc de Blancs?

28 Are you aware that twenty minutes in a freezer is the maximum for a white wine?

29 Do you realise that good white wines should never be chilled as rapidly as when in a freezer?

30 Do you appreciate that there is no need to wrap a Muscadet in a white napkin unless it's being served from an ice bucket?

31 Are you aware that iced-water is more effective than ice cubes alone when cooling a wine?

32 Muscadet being a younger, lighter wine should be drunk before older heavier wines?

33 Do you know the rule that at an all white wine meal, one should start with the more subtle wines and then move on to the more aromatic ones?

34 When serving Muscadet, or other white wine do you always use glasses with a crystal bowl to show off the colour of the wine?

35 Are you aware that both natural sunlight and artificial light are harmful to wine in clear glass bottles?

36 Do you know that the ideal temperature for storing Muscadet and all white wines is 7-12 Centigrade?

37 Do you always dry wine glasses whilst they are still warm with a lint free cloth, preferably a linen one?

38 Do you always store your wine glasses upright so that air can circulate in the bowl and prevent them becoming tainted?

39 Do you always inspect the cork to ensure that it does not contain weevils?

40 Do you like the crisp, dry flavour of Muscadet?

41 Do you like the price?

Stowells of Chelsea
WINE BOX

MUSCADET DE SÈVRE ET MAINE
APPELLATION CONTRÔLÉE



A CRISP DRY MUSCADET FROM SEVRE ET MAINE. FOR AROUND £10 OR LESS.

Stowells of Chelsea
WINE BOX

Breath meter test record is admissible

Gaimster v Marlow

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice MacPherson

[Judgment delivered December 8]

Basingstoke Justices were wrong to treat a "test record" produced by a Lion Intoximeter 3000 on a motorist's breath samples as an inadmissible document to evidence the proportion of alcohol in his breath. Contrary to the justices' opinion, the record was "a statement" within the meaning of section 10(3)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1972 as substituted by section 25(3) of and Schedule 8 to the Transport Act 1981.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court unanimously so held when allowing a police prosecutor's appeal by case stated from dismissal by the justices of an information charging that Russell John Gary Marlow, aged 26, of Basingstoke, drove a motor car on a road after consuming so much alcohol that the proportion thereof in his breath was 111 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath, exceeding the prescribed limit of 35 microgrammes in 100 millilitres, contrary to section 6(1) of the 1972 Act as substituted.

The justices dismissed the information on the ground that *there was no case to answer.*

In the stated case the justices set out, as the "test record", a part of a document:

TEST	UG%	TIME
STD	33	01:35 GMT
BLK	0	01:36 GMT
ONE	114	01:38 GMT
BLK	0	01:38 GMT
TWO	111	01:39 GMT
BLK	0	01:39 GMT
STD	33	01:40 GMT

The justices asked whether they were right in dismissing the information and in excluding the evidence of the police officer who conducted the test to explain or interpret the meaning of the contents of the document. Their Lordships answered that if he had been shown to be a trained operator of the machine and knew what the *meaning of the signs* was, there was no reason why he should not give evidence if required – it seldom would be required – to explain their meaning. The case was remitted to the justices to continue the hearing.

An application by the defendant for a certificate that a point of law of general public importance was involved in the decision was adjourned. Their Lordships stated that leave to appeal to the House of Lords was in any event refused. An order was made for payment of the prosecutor's costs out of central funds.

Section 10(3) provides: "Evidence of the proportion of alcohol... in a specimen of breath... may... be given by the production of a document... purporting to be... (a) a statement automatically produced by the device by which the proportion of alcohol in a specimen of breath was measured and a certificate signed by a constable (which may... be contained in the same document as the statement) that the statement relates to a specimen provided by the accused at the date and time shown in the statement...".

Mr John Spokes, QC and Mr Guy Boney for the prosecutor; Mr Michael Dineen for the defendant.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the information was heard on September 12. The evidence called before the justices, according to their stated case, was that of Police Sergeant Frank Younghusband, who described on oath how on May 11, 1983, at Basingstoke he had conducted a test of the defendant's breath using the Lion Intoximeter 3000, and of a document headed "test record", which was identified by Sgt Younghusband as having been issued by the Intoximeter and signed in two places by himself on May 11.

At that point the defendant's counsel objected that the "test record" was not a "statement" within section 10(3)(a) and therefore inadmissible as evidence of the proportion of *alcohol in the* defendant's breath.

His first point was that the only part of the piece of paper issued by the machine to which regard was to be had when considering the analysis of breath, the only part which could be considered to be the "statement", was a part which ended immediately above the operator's name. All that the court could have regard to was the figures produced by the test.

In the stated case the justices confined their reference to that document's part only. Whether they had had regard to the rest of the document was not clear.

His Lordship wished to say in general that it was essential in such cases, where a document as material as the present one was to be the subject of a case stated, the original document or a photostatic copy of the whole of it should be appended to the case. Their Lordships had been supplied with the full document.

The rest of the "test record" *document not cited by the justices* consisted of: "Operator name – Younghusband PS 187. I certify that in this statement, reading one relates to the first specimen of breath provided by the subject *named above, and reading* two to the second, at the date and time shown herein: F. Younghusband Signature".

Before the part cited by the justices appeared the following words: "Test record Lion Intox. 3000/5920 Basingstoke Police Hampshire Constab. Wed May 11, 1983 Subject name – Marlow Russell John DOB – 261057" and in the sergeant's handwriting "Refused to sign".

That was the document which was or should have been before the justices, and the whole of which should have been the subject of their deliberations and decision.

Mr Dineen's principal submission was that it was only the part which the justices had set out and not the second part which could be considered as the "statement". He went on *that, if one considered only* that part of the document it was not intelligible and therefore not a statement and consequently, he submitted, the justices were correct in their conclusion.

Before one turned to consider the technical aspects of the argument it was necessary to look at reality because what was being dealt with was the real world not some fanciful world.

The subject of such a case knew that he had been breathalysed at the roadside and, presumably, knew why. He had been taken to the police station. His car had presumably been *left behind* or other arrangements made with regard to it.

He knew that he had had two tests in the police station. He knew, if he was *compos mentis,* that it was all to do with the percentage of alcohol in his breath. He had been standing alongside or in front of the machine and had been there when he delivered his breath samples into it. *He had been there watching it* operate.

He knew that he had given two breath samples; presumably he had seen the piece of paper come out of the machine. He had been handed a copy to sign – the defendant had refused to sign it. He had the document in his possession.

He was told the result and if, at that stage, he was not capable of *reading the document or if possibly* he was unable to read he could put it in his pocket and go away and obtain help if necessary or when he recovered his senses could read it himself.

He then looked at the document and if he did that, it seemed to his Lordship that, taken as a whole the document was plainly intelligible.

Although the justices had stated that looking at the part at which they looked it was not intelligible without explanation, his Lordship begged leave to question that, although the court was bound by the finding of fact on that issue.

Was it to be said that the document could be split in two parts and had to be rigidly compartmentalized so that one was not allowed to look at the second half but only at the first part, that part only being the "statement"?

His Lordship disagreed. It seemed to him that, as the Act provided, the document as a whole contained both a statement and a certificate.

It contained the certificate that the specimen had been provided by the defendant as the Act required and it also contained an explanation so far as was required of the meaning of the figures.

The defendant reading the document would read that test ONE was 114. Casting his eye to the top of the cloumn he saw "%" at the top. The same with TWO.

In his Lordship's judgment it would be abundantly clear to anyone precisely what that document meant, namely, that he was being tested against the statutory limit. In the first test (114) it was exceeded as it was in the second test (111).

So it seemed to his Lordship perfectly plainly to be a document purporting to be a statement automatically produced and also a *certificate signed by a constable.* It was one document containing an explanation of the meaning.

Mr Dineen's first point about rigid separation failed.

His Lordship would, if necessary, go further because it seemed to him that a statement in the circumstances of the present case was a formal written account of the facts providing the subject with the information that he was entitled to have. The fact that to some, or even most, people it might not be immediately intelligible did not prevent it being a "statement".

A subsidiary point of Mr Dineen *was that there was no reference in* the statement to "alcohol". Once again the reality of the matter was that it was perfectly plain to everyone – even if the words "Lion Intox." meant nothing – the whole object of the exercise was to test the percentage of alcohol.

It was objected that "UG%", which was at the head of the column, was unintelligible. The *English "U" was the nearest the* machine could get to the the Greek "*mu*", which with "G" meant microgrammes. Even if that was not intelligible the "%" sign alongside was perfectly plain. If he did not know that 35 was the limit he ought to.

The answer to the first question asked by the justices was that they were not correct in law in treating the *"test record" document* as inadmissible as evidence of the proportion of alcohol in the defendant's breath in that it was not "a statement" within the meaning of section 10(3)(a) of the 1972 Act.

In answer to their second question, if the police officer had been shown to be a trained operator of the machine, they were wrong in that conclusion also.

Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice MacPherson agreed.

Solicitors: Mr R. J. Gwilliam, Winchester; Emersons, Basingstoke.

Stepdaughter is awarded £19,000 from estate

Leach v Linderman and Others

In order for a person to satisfy section 1 (1) (d) of the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975 as having been a person who (not being a child of the deceased) had been treated by the deceased as a child of the family in relation to a marriage to which the *deceased had at any time been a* party, it was not necessary for the treatment to have occurred during the course of the marriage, Mr Michael Wheeler, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division, held on December 8.

HIS LORDSHIP said the treatment could include events which preceded or followed the marriage if, on the facts of the particular case, the treatment could fairly be said to have been, in a broad sense, "in relation to" that marriage and awarded an immediate payment of *£19,000 to an able-bodied woman of* 55, who had made her own way in life since she was 21, and who was the stepdaughter of the intestate deceased, out of an estate of £45,000.

Driver was tested too soon

Horton v Twells

Before Lord Justice Stephen Brown and Mr Justice Taylor

[Judgment delivered December 8]

A defendant had been lawfully arrested by a police constable on the basis of a breath test that indicated that the proportion of alcohol in his blood exceeded the prescribed limit, if the police constable had acted in good faith when operating the breath-test device, although the device had not been operated in accordance with *the manufacturers'* instructions.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when allowing an appeal by way of case stated brought by the prosecutor.

Mr John McGuinness for the prosecutor; Mr Stephen Twist for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHEN BROWN said that the defendant was required to provide a specimen of breath in an *Alcolmeter device.* The police constable knew that the device should not be operated within 20 minutes of the consumption of alcohol.

The defendant said that he had had his last drink 10 minutes earlier but refused to wait 10 minutes before testing and insisted that the constable administer the breath test.

The justices accepted the defendant's submission of no case to answer on the basis that the defendant had been unlawfully arrested because the police officer had failed to comply with the operating instructions.

The justices had not been referred to any reported decisions and had not considered the vital matter which was whether the constable had acted in good faith or not: see *Webber v Carey* ([1970] AC 1072; *R v Aspden* ([1975] RTR 456).

On the facts as found, unless the contrary was shown, the constable had acted in good faith. Accordingly the justices were not justified in upholding the submission of no case.

They should have directed their minds to whether the constable was acting bona fide and accordingly the case should be sent back to them to continue with the hearing.

Where police officers were faced with a person who refused to wait 20 minutes before a test, officers should consider proceeding to arrest under section 8(5) of the Road Traffic Act 1972 for failing to provide a specimen of breath.

Mr Justice Taylor agreed.

Solicitors: Wontner & Sons; Turner Garrett & Co, Addlestone.

Breach of safe port clause

C-Trade of Geneva SA v Uni-Ocean Lines Pte Ltd of Singapore

Before Lord Justice Stephenson and Lord Justice Kerr

[Judgment delivered December 2]

When deciding whether charterers of a vessel trapped in a port had breached the safe port provisions of a charterparty, arbitrators had to consider the prospective safety of the port at the time the vessel was ordered there and not the question whether the port had become unsafe when the vessel was there because of some abnormal occurrence.

Further, having found that charterers were in breach by ordering a vessel to an unsafe port or by failing to countermand such an order, the arbitrators had to go on to consider whether the trapping of the vessel was foreseeable or too remote to be treated as a *consequence* flowing from the charterers' breach.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by the charterers of a vessel, C-Trade of Geneva SA from a decision of Mr *Justice Bingham* ([1983] 1 Lloyd's Rep 387) who had allowed an appeal by the owners, Uni-Ocean Lines Pte Ltd of Singapore from an interim award by three arbitrators who by a majority decided that the *charterers had not breached the safe* port provisions of the charterparty.

Mr Stephen Tomlinson for the charterers; Mr Peter Gross for the owners.

LORD JUSTICE KERR said that the disputes arose out of a time charter on the New York Produce Exchange Form between the owners and the charterers. It concerned the vessel Lucille which was ordered to Basrah through the *Shatt al Arab* just before the outbreak of hostilities between Iran and Iraq in September, 1980.

The differing conclusions of the arbitrators on whether or not the charterers had breached the safe port provisions of the charterparty related in part to questions of causation or remoteness of damage flowing from a breach of contract. Such issues involved mixed questions of fact and law in relation to which the courts would only rarely differ from the conclusions of an arbitral tribunal. The principles in *Edwards v Bairstow* ([1956] AC 14) were to be applied to arbitral awards in such cases.

On July 21, 1980 the vessel was ordered to Constantza to load bagged cement and completed loading there on July 31. By a bill of lading dated August 1, 1980 she was ordered to Basrah as the port of discharge.

On August 25 she arrived at the Shatt anchorage. Due to congestion at Basrah, the vessel waited at the Shatt anchorage until September 20 when she proceeded to Basrah. She did not proceed to Basrah simply on the basis of that destination being named in the bills of lading but pursuant to an express order given by the charterers.

The arbitrators found that relations between Iran and Iraq deteriorated after September 17. There were further border clashes between September 17 and 19 and according to a *Times* leader on September 20 "it was clear that the Shatt was the 'potential *casus belli'* ".

It was on that day that the charterers ordered the vessel to leave the anchorage *and proceed* to Basrah. The arbitrators concluded that Basrah was an unsafe port when the charterers ordered the vessel to proceed there on September 20.

The vessel discharged her cargo until October 23. *Meanwhile heavy* fighting on land and sea proceeded from September 21, including hostilities in the Shatt. Navigation in the Shatt ceased during the afternoon of September 22 and had not reopened.

At the time of the award the law laid emphasis not upon the prospective safety or unsafety of the port at the time of the order but upon the question of whether or not the port had become unsafe at any time when the vessel was there and if so whether that had been due to some abnormal occurrence or not.

That doctrine was reversed by the House of Lords in *Kodros Shipping Corporation of Monrovia v Empresa Cubana de Fletes (No 2) (The Evia)* ([1983] AC 736) and described by Lord Diplock as a "heresy".

Lord Roskill stated that a secondary *obligation* was *imposed* on charterers if a port became unsafe after a proper order had been given to the vessel to proceed to such port at a time when it was still prospectively safe.

That secondary obligation was that the prior order must then be countermanded or, if the vessel was already at the port in question that she must then be ordered to leave it that was still possible to avoid the effect of the unsafety.

It was apparent that the arbitrators proceeded on an erroneous basis in law. Having found that Basrah was already an unsafe port when the charterers ordered the vessel to proceed there on September 20, they nevertheless concluded that the charterers were not in breach of the charterparty, whereas the contrary was now clearly established by *The Evia.*

Further, even if there had then been no fresh order, as found by the arbitrators, but merely a failure to countermand the previous order given when the vessel left Constanza, the charterers would still have *been in breach* of the secondary obligation stated by Lord Roskill.

The award was *ex facie* erroneous in point of law and therefore fell within the category of cases in which the court had to intervene referred to in *Edwards v Bairstow.*

On the basis of *The Evia* the correct approach was different from the consideration of abnormal occurrence. Given the fact that the charterers were in breach in ordering the vessel to Basrah, or in failing to countermand the previous order when Basrah became an unsafe port on September 20 the question was: Was there then a foreseeable risk that the vessel might become trapped, or was the trapping of the vessel too remote to be treated as a consequence flowing from the charterers' breach? There could be only one answer.

The award stated that the trapping of the Lucille in the Shatt was effectively caused by the warlike actions between the Iranians and Iraqis and that navigation of the river ceased, in the general sense, on *the ground of safety. As Mr Justice* Bingham said there was no intervening event which led to the closing of the Shatt on September 22 other than a mere worsening of the situation.

It was no doubt unforeseen that the Shatt would remain closed for many months, and by now for over three years, so that the vessels in it became contructive total losses. But that merely went to the extent and gravity of what was foreseeable, not to the foreseeability of the risk itself, and it was settled law that in such cases the actual damage was not too remote to remain a legal consequence of the charterers' breach. Accordingly, the appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Stephenson agreed.

Solicitors: Lloyd Denby Neal; Lovell White & King.

No right of set-off for delay in transit

***R H & D International Ltd* v I A S Animal Air Services Ltd**

The rule in *Aries Tanker Corporation v Total Transport Ltd* ([1977] 1 WLR 185), that a claim in respect of cargo could not be asserted by way of deduction from freight, applied to contracts subject to the Schedule to the Carriage of Goods by Road Act 1965 notwithstanding the provisions of articles *32.4 and 36 of that Schedule, and* accordingly there existed no right of set-off against a claim for freight due for carriage of goods by road under the Schedule even where the cross-claim related to delay as opposed to damage or loss.

Mr Justice Neill so held, giving judgment in open court in the Queen's Bench Division on December 6, following proceedings in chambers *under Order 14 of the* Rules of the Supreme Court, and awarding the plaintiffs £2,646 for freight owed to them by the defendants.

Proving fraudulent inducement

Regina v Brown (Kevin)

The making of a false statement, knowingly, was an essential ingredient of the offence of fraudulently inducing the investment of money, contrary to section 13(1)(a) of the Prevention of Fraud Investment Act 1958. Thus, where several statements were specified as constituting an offence, only one had to be proved in order to secure a conviction, but it had to be proved to the satisfaction of every member of the jury, the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Eveleigh, Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice Hollings) held on December 2.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH, giving the reserved judgment of the court, allowing an appeal against conviction, said that each ingredient of the offence charged had to be proved to the satisfaction of each and every one of the jury, subject to the majority direction.

However, where a number of matters were specified in the charge as together constituting one ingredient of the offence, and any one of them was capable of so doing, it was enough to establish that ingredient that any one of those matters was proved, but it had to be proved to the satisfaction of the whole (or a majority) of the jury.

هكذا من الأصل

THE ARTS

Theatre

Scream of hatred

Sufficient Carbohydrate
Hampstead

Announced as "Dennis Potter's *first original stage play*," *this is* an angry piece about five tourists being very rude to each other on a Greek island.

In the chaste confines of Tanya McCallin's villa set, the play begins as a messy Anglo-American dogfight over the future of a chain of British foodstores.

Two directors of the company are on holiday with their wives. Jack's family founded the store, then sold out to the Americans who now want to get rid of him as a lazy, obstructive, alcoholic. The holiday has been arranged to give the American director, Eddie, a chance to get rid of Jack.

Hostilities get under way in the early morning sunshine, *with Jack springing to the* defence of hand-picked mushrooms and Eddie no less vigorously putting the case for bio-technology.

What the author thinks is quite clear: the English used to sell food; now the Americans are selling junk. As Jack is sitting tight on his contract and is clearly not going to undergo a Pauline conversion to fast food, matters are soon deadlocked and Mr Potter turns his attention to the surrounding company, including young Clayton, (Rupert Graves), the son of Eddie's first marriage, who now observes his father clandestinely entwined with his co-director's wife.

This line of busines also *swiftly comes to a head, with* Eddie and Elizabeth defiantly retiring to bed, leaving Jack to give the abandoned Lucy a black eye while murmuring profuse English apologies.

The second act finds Eddie and Elizabeth sunning themselves on the terrace after their night of pleasure and asking themselves "What's going to happen now?", a question the author may well have been asking himself.

No very conclusive answer arrives. Jack is discovered, in bad shape, after a night on the beach. Clayton keeps on arriving at embarrassing moments, and also goes off to nurse his wounded feelings in solitude. Search parties come and go. Jack tries to punch Eddie's nose; and the piece ends with Jack's surprise resignation from the firm and the cast straining their eyes for a distant freighter he claims to see on the horizon.

As Jack is played by Dinsdale Landen and Eddie by Nicky Henson you will have a good idea of how their relationship works. It is a duel between irony and brute force, with the crumbling Mr Landen running rings of scathingly articulate mockery around his monosyllabically virile adversary.

This way of turning the tables on life's actual victors is an ancient theatre game; and the only surprise here is that a writer of Mr Potter's quality should present such a crass portrait of the Ugly American and load him with dialogue consisting almost exclusively of clichés. Mr Henson obliges by playing with the bogus sincerity of a cigarette voice-over, inviting demolition with every line.

However, there is more to the piece than that. Besides its contrast between a sagging Britain and a thrusting America, it also delivers a scream of hatred against a supposedly cannibalistic society: what people really want in their hamburgers is human flesh.

Finally, there is a religious dimension, embodied in Jack's vision of the ship which stands for original innocence and his sense of a lost mission. At the mention of a black freighter you think of Brecht's ominous vessel; but, no, it is Masefield's – and whether you can see it or not is Mr Potter's way of sorting out of sheep from the goats (to Eddie, of course, the horizon is blank). For those who can see it, it evidently has the effect of making the rest of the human race look like monsters.

Nancy Meckler's hygienic production succeeds in cooling atmosphere. The play is cast well up to the Hampstead standard; and if there is no very clear distinction between Jill Baker's Lucy and Jennifer Hilary's Elizabeth, *they go* through the motions of desire, jealousy, and derision with an astute control of the manoeuvres of sexual comedy.

Irving Wardle

Fishing
Arts Theatre

"If only she would get married", think Mum and Aunt May as Ingrid sits expecting her second child in the tower-block flat she shares with yet another man who beats her up.

This last play in the Arts's rewarding black playwrights' season *places a vulnerable*, perplexed, character between two ways of life. Her friend Jean, planning to give her man the push, is all for freedom and draining life's wine to the dregs. Her cousin in Manchester (mercifully unseen) is marrying a nice, non-smoking clerk, with her as bridesmaid in pink chiffon with off-white lace on cuffs, collar, and what Auntie calls "the upper chest". "Very nice", comments Jean through her teeth.

Apart from its black milieu, Paulette Randall's play covers partly familiar territory, but it brings humour and much tenderness to the anguish of a character who cannot do the expected thing yet finds choosing her own path painful.

It also contitiutes an engaging plea that best friends are better than lovers: Ingrid and Jean know and love each other so well, have more fun together than with anyone else, finish each other's sentences, sometimes fight, but cannot stay angry for long.

Yvonne Gidden (Ingrid) tries desperately to dispose of a dead goldfish, suffers a hilariously fragile hangover, pathetically protests "Jean, he doesn't beat you *every* night"; even ebullient Ellen Thomas is furious and hurt to find that the man she was going to walk out on has walked out first.

We see them in plenty of *crises, but at least they have* each other. And the two matriarchs are wonderfully contrasted. Corinne Skinner-Carter makes a Mum of few words and much understanding, and Peggy Phango flowers startingly after a few drinks from a tight-lipped disapprover into a joyful Bacchante.

Anthony Masters

Cinema

Harking back, falling down

Trading Places (15)
Empire 2

Liquid Sky (18)
ICA Cinema, Classic Chelsea

Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars (PG)
Lumière

Biddy (U)
Minema

House of Evil (18)
Classic Oxford Street.

The most terrifying cinematic moment of 1983 occurred last weekend at the Dominion Theatre, London, when Victor Sjöström's silent classic *The Wind* (1928) approached its delirious climax. On screen, Lillian Gish staggered through the eye of a symbolic storm, surrounded by dust, swirling clouds and debris: in the orchestra pit, Carl Davis's percussion players threw up a wall of noise. Just when matters reached fever pitch, a flaming horse pounded through the sky, reducing Miss Gish's emotions (and those of the spectators) to smithereens. No one could ask for a greater instance of cinema's power to shake one's being.

Last week's presentation of *The Wind*, and Griffith's fragrant *Broken Blossoms*, not only dwarfed most of the other offerings at the London Film Festival, they made pygmies of the current commercial brood. John Landis's comedy, *Trading Places*, though, has been a huge commercial hit in the United States during its summer release. The film opens here close to Christmas partly because Christmas trees and Santa Claus feature among the props; but mostly, one suspects, because Hollywood has few light-hearted romps to hawk.

The material harks back to the vintage comedies of Capra, Preston Sturges and Gregory La Cava, where American society was purposefully laid out, dissected and lampooned. Here, we see two specimens on the slab: Louis Winthorpe III, a smug product of money and privilege (played by pudding-faced Dan Aykroyd), and Billy Ray Valentine, a resilient survivor of the urban jungle (Eddie Murphy, from the thriller *48 HRS*). Two mischievous moguls, played with alacrity by veterans Ralph Bellamy and Don Ameche, choose to test the benefits of breeding by making the couple swap places. Winthorpe becomes a penniless outcast, touchingly ridiculous in garishly shabby clothes; Valentine revels in Winthorpe's house, Harvard tie, butler and brokerage job.

John Landis decorates this schematic tale with modest visual eloquence. His cameras catch the forlorn absurdity of a rain-swept Aykroyd staring through the window at his former colleagues; crisp editing isolates Murphy's sideways look as Bellamy pedantically explains the use of pork bellies in bacon. Performances, too, oil the script's wheels: Denholm Elliott raises a querulous eyebrow and utters "Egg nog?" as though comic British butlers had just been invented. The entire film, indeed, is an egg nog: it slips down parched throats easily enough, though the nutritional deficiences should still be pointed out.

Timothy Harris and Herschel Weingrod's script toys with its situations rather than exploits them, and the verbal wit of their Hollywood models is nowhere approached. Truly successful comedy needs discipline: *Trading Places* is so profligate that a train bearing the leading characters in disguise, New Year revellers and a caged ape is needlessly catapulted into the script, with no decent gags for recompense.

"There's something strange going on here – I'm going to leave," mutters one of the bystanders in the outlandish *Liquid Sky*, made in New York by excited Russian emigrés. It may seem tempting to follow suit: the characters are the kind worth crossing a street to avoid; most of their words have four letters; the material, furthermore, hardly sustains 112 minutes. Yet *Liquid Sky* should not be brushed aside lightly. The bizarre production context alone earns the film a footnote in cinema history, and the blend of punk musical, *punk fashion show and science-fiction* parody exerts a definite exotic appeal.

In its time, the Russian experimental tradition has drawn open sustenance from American popular culture; jazz and silent screen slapstick were potent influences during the 1920s. But director Slava Tsukerman, cameraman Yuri Neyman and their partners are children of an older, colder Soviet era; with the lurid shenanigans of *Liquid Sky* they are clearly relishing forbidden fruit. New York's punk underworld is viewed with a cold but sharply observant eye: personal relationships are entirely destructive, yet the people look highly glamorous – multi-coloured mannequins daubed with Japanese delicacy.

The production team's alien status is ingeniously built into the plot. There is an alien visitor on the heroine's rooftop, embedding glass arrows in the heads of anyone experiencing orgasm; there is a German scientist glued to a telescope, sharpening his accent on lines like "The alien craft is about the size of a dinner plate". Viewed as a cock-eyed scientific documentary, the film's sluggishness suddenly becomes understandable: all telescope watchers must expect boredom.

Tsukerman's band were joined in the venture by the American punk dignitary Anne Carlisle; she co-wrote the script and plays two parts (one of them male) with haunting zombie aplomb. Her own New York apartment – a pleasure-dome of neon signs and mirrors – is also featured prominently on-screen; quite understandably, she moved elsewhere as soon as the production was over.

D. A. Pennebaker's David Bowie film *Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars* documents western taste from a more traditional angle: Bowie's last concert appearance as his character "Ziggy *Stardust" is filmed with all the sophisti*cation that a darkened Hammersmith Odeon allows. The footage was shot in 1973 as a video disc experiment for RCA; for this delayed theatrical release, Bowie remixed the music track (though imperfections remain). Pennebaker – director of the rock documentaries *Don't Look Back* and *Monterey Pop* – feels this is "more than just a concert film".

To the extent that Bowie's act crystallizes crucial popular trends, he is correct. But future historians will have a frustrating time discerning Bowie's astonishing costumes beneath the film's grainy surface. The audience, perversely, comes across more clearly, through flashing shots of ecstatic faces and waving arms; they seem like denizens of the inferno.

Biddy is a British aberration, devised and directed by Christine Edzard at the Rotherhithe studios of Sands Films. The tale of a Victorian nursemaid pottering into old age utilizes Edzard's flair for period accoutrements and whimsy (she was production designer and co-writer of *Tales of Beatrix Potter*); but hideously synchronized dialogue and an absence of dramatic thrust prove crippling handicaps.

The American horror piece *House of Evil*, written and directed by Mark Rosman, is ruined in turn by stunted imagination. Vicious mystery supposedly lurks in a college campus, but when matchstick characters talk about "the old cemetery" and "the old garage" we know precisely what is before us: old rubbish.

Geoff Brown


Eddie Murphy begs from Don Ameche in *Trading Places*

Dance

Catherine Ashmore

Consort Lessons, choreographed by David Bintley

Ballet out of music

Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

Two new ballets on the same *evening, one by a choreogra*pher and designer new to the Royal Opera House, one by a guest conductor tackling ballet for the first time: where do I start? Perhaps with the thought that both the ballets are plotless, the first works of any substance in that genre to be created for this branch of the Royal Ballet in well over three years, so they provide a welcome counterbalance in a repertory heavily (some of us think far too heavily) weighted with strong dramas and old classics.

Richard Alston's ballet, *Midsummer*, gained more from the new conductor, Howard Williams, to direct Michael Tippett's Fantasia Concertante on a theme of Corelli, written in *1953, right after The Midsummer Marriage*, and having some links with that work. The Covent Garden strings played warmly for him.

Alston lives up to his claim, in Wednesday's interview on this page, to have drawn his ballet from the score. He achieves the feeling (helped by John Hubbard's backcloth with its abstraction of a rocky landscape) that the action takes place in the open air on a hot day. One consequence of that is a general impression of a gentle, unassertive quality to the dances.

That is in fact true of the greater part of the choreography, from the slow solo by Ashley Page that starts the ballet to the duet for Bryony Brind and Jonathan Cope that comes near the end. That couple, both long-limbed, achieve an attractive, almost gawky grace together, which might suggest a metaphor for young people learning how to relate to each other.

There are plenty of crisper passages, notably a sextet for all the male dancers and a darting entry for Brind and the other woman soloist, Fiona Chadwick. Also, Alston (like David Bintley in the other new work) makes his cast use the whole stage more freely and broadly than they often do. On the other hand, I wonder whether the solid groupings of some entries, accentuated by the costumes in solid colours, are going to grow to seem more natural or less so?

Midsummer gives all its dancers plenty of steps to perform, something else that has tended to go by default recently in favour of pliant plastique and manipulative adagious. He shows such a keen awareness of just what will make each of them look good that I am left uncertain whether he has been content to work within the very considerable capacities of a gifted young cast, or whether it is actually harder than it seems but with the difficulties all hidden.

There is no such uncertainty about Bintley's creation, *Consort Lessons*. He has stretched his dancers hard, especially in making them move much faster than they are accustomed to go, continually crossing a wide area with swift, precise steps, and although he too has cast his ballet from strength, mainly among the younger women with some more experienced men, you can see that they find it an effort. If they can catch up with him, not only this ballet but their other roles will benefit.

Bintley's music is the Stravinsky Concerto for piano and wind instruments, with Anthony Twiner as soloist. Perhaps it was the arrival of many latecomers, caught out by a very prompt start, and the consequent shuffling, hushing and squeaking of seats that caused a feeling of too lax a tension in the orchestra's playing of the first movement. On stage, this features Alessandra Ferri as protagonist, with Wayne Eagling and Stephen Jefferies as prominent soloists, and all but one of the other dancers in strong support.

The exception is Lesley Collier, whom Bintley reserves for the slow movement. And what slow movement he gives her! The rest of the cast may have been made to hustle, but Collie has long sustained passages of balance and descent, changes of weight and direction, that sometimes look almost incredibly difficult.

At least, they would look difficult but for the radiant poise and smooth, crisp exactness with which Collier dances them. She meets the challenge of Bintley's choreography with shining assurance, pushes her always admirable skills further than ever before, and as in other recent roles proves that she can still find new qualities to match new demands. I have never seen her dance more excitingly.

Collier is the star of the evening, in this and in MacMillan's Fauré *Requiem* that completes the bill, but her colleagues in *Consort Lessons* keep up gamely. In particular, it is good to see Ferri being allowed for once to dance flat out without all that acting, and Jefferies allowed to cap a sequence of *tours en l'air* by the other men with a "double double" and a joking look of surprised delight.

Terry Bartlett's architectural setting, with its false perspective in the backcloth, perhaps adds to the vertiginous liveliness of the ballet, and his costumes with their varied stripes in warm colours are handsome. The new works together are a shot in the arm for the Covent Garden repertory, but the dose is so small as to seem homeopathic: you have only December 12, 17 and 30 on which to catch them.

John Percival

Opera

Carmen
Dominion Theatre

The Welsh National Opera's tatty, beleaguered carnival of a *Carmen* was much appreciated when it opened in Cardiff in May, but it seems to have run out of steam on the way to London. Now Lucian Pintilie's production is not sharp enough to be a send-up, not important enough to be a tragedy and certainly not vivid enough to be any kind of a theatrical *entertainment. With no disre*spect to the Prince and Princess of Wales who were with us in the Dominion theatre, one must suggest that the wily *Carmen* watchers on Wednesday night were at home with Peter Brook on Channel 4.

The Welsh and Romanians, meanwhile, were failing to live up to their own aim of astonishing, an aim implicit from the treatment of the prelude, and the splendid irrelevance of using the fate music to accompany a tightrope act. The trouble is that once you have flung your midgets around a few times there are still three and a half acts to go.

Pintilie, very reasonably, finds it hard to take Micaela *seriously, but unfortunately* there is no purchase in pointing up the weakness of your material unless you do it in outrageously bad taste. A model village and a crucifix wheeled unto the stage were merely as feeble as Micaela herself, and they cruelly distracted one from the finest singing of the evening, coming from Helen Field in this role.

Jennifer Jones returned as Carmen, amused and dangerous, but not vocally flamboyant enough to usurp the stage as she should. This was a little surprising when he had such poor competition. Jacque Trussel as Don Jose and Henry Newman as Escaxmillo were nowhere in the running, and at times this unconvinced production began to look disastrously like a comment on their interpretations. Nothing, though, could destroy the splendour and excitement being engendered in the pit by Mark Ermler.

Paul Griffiths

Television

Whether public schools enrich the national psyche or impoverish it is one of those arguments beloved of the British. William Boyd obviously belongs to the latter school of thought. The public school portrayed in his **Good and Bad Games** on Channel 4 last night was surely more public than most and lacked entirely the restraining presence of masters.

His plot, that a much-bullied boy would wait 10 years for revenge, a melodramatic one at that, I found improbable and there was the further handicap that the same actors were required to play boys and adults with a 10-year gap between. This and the innumerable flashbacks made it difficult to know where one was.

So the story, despite the expertise of director Jack Gold, did not translate well to film. As the victim, Anton Lesser, with the aid of a moustache and beard, managed to hop back and forth over that age gap better than most and his performance, in the circumstances, was excellent. Martin Stanbridge, too, as the sporting all-rounder, tolerated but not accepted, did well, but all in all, this morbid little deterrent to parents about to plunge deep into their overdrafts for school fees did not come off.

It is not only boys at public schools who have problems, however, for it is a wicked world. The Sniffer's Tale, also on Channel 4, was the fifth in director-producer Jeff Perks's look at young East Enders. One hopes that its social implications would impress younger and possibly deprived viewers more than its detailed information concerning the practice of glue-sniffing and the relative merits of Bostik, Evostick and Thixofix. It is possible that this might not be so.

The main character, Pat, admitted to sniffing at one point for 12 hours a day, seven days a week. The film opened with him telling the sad story of his life to a probation officer who was recording it so that magistrates could deliberate over an appropriate sentence.

We saw Pat subsequently with contemporaries pursuing their aimless life, practising their brand of escapism, and talking about it. They all appeared to have learned better

Dennis Hackett

Rock

T-Bone Burnett
Dingwalls

When a man who could have understudied for the young Robert Mitchum in *Thunder Road* – hooded peepers, unruly brown quiff, oddly pursed mouth – drawls through a rock 'n' roll recitation of "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend", plays the only decent version of "Not Fade Away" heard since the Rolling Stones took away its individuality and turned it into a Bo Diddley song, recreates the spirit of the late Richie Valens in a whooping "La Bamba" and then gets the Dingwalls audience to join in with "You Are My Sunshine", only the terminally jaded could maintain indifference.

T-Bone Burnett is a Texan singer and writer who toured with Bob Dylan's Rolling Thunder Revue in 1976, subsequently joined an obscure outfit called the Alpha Band, and has an appealing new album, *Proof Through the Night*, just released, featuring discreet guest appearances by Ry Cooder, Richard Thompson and Pete Townshend. To London on Wednesday night he brought a band including Andy Williams's sons, Andy Jr and David, who sang excellent backing harmonies; an outstanding stand-up bassist; a percussionist who played mostly congas and wire brushes; and his own impassioned amplified acoustic guitar. "This must be my beatnik phase", he said, but though there was a modicum of bop-talk and finger-snapping the music veered mostly between the light Tex-Mex pop-rock of *The Chirping Crickets*, the Bob Dylan of *Blood on the Tracks* and the Everly Brothers of *Instant Party*.

Burnett is a real charmer: laconically unassuming, humorous, slightly disorganized, but able to drop into the muted nightmare of "Hefner and Disney", a powerful modern parable, without needing to draw undue attention to the change of trajectory. He accepted requests, cheerfully allowed the audience to derail a couple of monologues, and delivered a strong version of his new "When the Night Falls", a song fit to join Springsteen's "Night" and "Prove it All Night", Jackson Browne's "Tender is the Night", Bob Seger's "Hollywood Nights" and Lionel Richie's "Running Through the Night" in what is now a fully accredited compositional subgenre.

Burnett stands alongside John Cale and Alex Chilton as a grown-up rocker with an off-centre vision; whether he widens his following beyond the present cult is up to a public not always noted for its discriminatory powers.

Richard Williams

SPECTRUM

Kenya: the rocky road from Uhuru

Kenya became independent 20 years ago on Monday. Xan Smiley finds it to be a land still struggling towards nationhood, and talks to Daniel arap Moi in his first interview since he succeeded Jomo Kenyatta

The first rule of writing about Africa is that comparisons are everything. It is no good coming from Europe and pontificating on one African country without knowing others. Every country in the African continent can be convincingly portrayed in a bleak light. Through no fault of the Africans (who often do make matters worse), Africa is ill-starred. Practically every country is an artificial patchwork creation. Boundaries – crazy straight lines and rectangles – were drawn with brutal crudity by colonial mapmakers. Ancient traditions were swept aside, hybrid societies hatched overnight, ashamed of the old ways but given only a veneer of the new.

Peoples – tribes – often far more different from each other than, say, Spaniards and Poles, were hurled together and told to become one. There are almost no nation-states in Africa. They have been told to create nationhood out of a host of diversity. Kenya is no exception. It is not a nation. It is trying to become one. It is remarkable that it has held together as well as it has.

So the first rule is to look at the neighbours. Kenya has recently gathered an army of detractors, mostly from the left. Many of their criticisms contain more than a germ of truth: that there is too much corruption, that the *grab-grab, freewheeling, often chaotic* capitalism has lowered morality, that some of the rich are obscenely rich while the poor are too easily trampled. Yet by the standard of every neighbour, Kenya *is an island of tolerance*, prosperity and progress for most of its people.

Look clockwise: Uganda, groping back to economic sanity under the still unloved minority leader Milton Obote, will take a generation to recover a modicum of civil decency; southern Sudan, its rich potential unfulfilled, is *drifting back toward civil war*; blood-stained Ethiopia is beset by at least four regional rebellions and beholden to the Soviet Union; Somalia's leadership is near-bankrupt and beleaguered. Only Tanzania, under the once-plausible Nyerere, for so long the darling of the progressive developmentalists, can stake a claim to equality with Kenya.

It is a false claim. Nyerere's much mentioned barb that Kenya is a "man-eat-man" society is still blunted by the Kenyan retort that in Tanzania "man eats nothing". It is true that Tanzania *is more egalitarian than Kenya. There* is no great individual wealth. In both countries there remain millions living on subsistence. But in Tanzania the mediocrity is deeper, the poverty is more uniform.

Impressive figures are ritually trotted out - unverifiable and increasingly contested – to show advances in literacy, water supply and health care. Yet with less fanfare Kenya has done better on all levels, although contrary to standard wisdom, Kenya's agricultural potential is less than Tanzania's.

The author is a writer on foreign affairs for The Economist *and a former editor of the newsletter* Africa Confidential.



Daniel arap Moi: suspicious of left-wing intellectuals

Kenya took longer to make primary schooling free and most still pay for secondary school. But the numbers of

A government with a sense of determination

secondary students in Kenya (up from 31,000 at Independene to 438,000 today) far surpass those in Tanzania.

Kenyan medical treatment, though often maladministered, easily outpoints Tanzania where drugs, anaesthetics, even gauze and soap, are unobtainable in many hospitals.

Agricultural development overall, Kenya is far ahead, the Tanzanian dream of *ujamaa* (collectivization of villages) having turned sour years ago.

Tanzanian sneers that the former white highlands of Kenya have simply passed to a new black elite are rubbish. There is indeed a mini-class of rich black Kenyans, there remains a landless minority who feel cheeted by the fruits of independence plucked by others.

But most of the white settlers' farms were transferred to cooperative societies, often badly administered. Kenya's most justifiable boast is the growth of intensively farmed peasant smallholdings. Maladministration of bureaucracy and corruption is threatening the wellbeing of the small coffee farmer, the Kenyan cotton and pyrethrum growers have already been sorely hit.

But many thousands of Kenyan smallholders have become modestly prosperous through coffee, tea, sugar and tobacco. Often in harness with those monsters of the Tanzanian demonology, the multi-national companies like Booker McConnell and BAT.

There are probably five million Kenyans out of 17 million who are now part of the peasant cash economy. Another two million or so have become urban. Many of the rest stay poor. But overall that is a fine achievement in 20 years.

All the same, Kenya's economy is shaky – like even the best in Africa. Fuel swallows 55 per cent of foreign earnings. The world recession has thumped tourism and played havoc with the prices of export crops like coffee. Government spending has been profligate, and too often corruption has led to the wrong contracts being signed. Three years ago Kenya had its first shortages of such goods as flour.

The IMF has arrived with its tough conditions for loans and already, while *Tanzania still faces shortages* of tea, sugar and soap and petrol, Kenyan shops are full and businessmen are predicting that they are coming out of the trough.

Government spending is sharply down, people are worse off than they were five years ago and inflation is around 24 per cent, but the recent elections and cabinet shake-up have lent a sense of determination to the Government.

The jitters that followed the coup attempt of August 1982 have gone, the armed forces better cosseted. President Moi faces a very awkward few years but he seems to have acquired a new lease of life.

Kenyan politics have always been rough, dirty, but admirably lively. Tribal groupings are bigger and more competitive than in Tanzania.

The man at the top of Kenya needs *to be tough. Kenyatta was the* archetypal African nationalist, his strength based on one tribe (the Kikuyu) but his patronage spread cleverly across a tribal board where alliances are ever shifting.

He allowed a measure of opposition – so long as the centre was not threatened. Then he was ruthless. Two important politicians – Tom Mboya and J. M. Kariuki – were assassinated without satisfactory explanation; at least one other lesser figure was killed.

Kenyatta kept about 15 of his severest critics in jail. His successor, Mr Moi, let them out, but soon put another few back in again. Within the one-party system, Kenya is a fairly loosely-controlled, limited democracy. People can argue – up to a point. Every five years MPs face the popular electoral music. Only a handful of candidates are barred from standings Despite *Mr Moi's suspicion of left*-wing intellectuals, Kenya remains one of Africa's most open societies.

Life across the colour line is more relaxed

Multi-racial? In a way, yes. There is more tolerance – pragmatic, amused, sometimes mutually contemptuous – than real social mixing or friendship. The cultures of both black and white still sit far apart, unyielding.

But compared with 30 years ago, when Kenya was as race-based as Ian Smith's Rhodesia life across the *colour-line is relaxed and natural*.

Blacks now feel less need to assert themselves, whites have less cause to "bend over blackwards". White numbers are down from 56,000 at Independence to *39,000 today, Indians from* 177,000 to 77,000. Most of the present whites are expatriates. Only 4,000 are Kenyan citizens.

The more profound change is the rise of a black middle class more fastidious as consumers, as professionals, *and as voters*. So far the politics of tribe and patronage prevail. But for the professional in his mid-thirties the political old guard no longer seems adequate. Its corruption *is disliked not because it is immoral* (few Kenyans really believe that) but because it increases inefficiency and impedes meritocracy.

The extended family and the trickle-down of wealth from the "big man" to the distantly-related family followers have hitherto softened the inequalities of wealth.

But as the middle-class nuclear family takes over and the urban and middle classes slowly become detribalised, *the old politics will* lose their grip. But not yet. The old-time techniques of Jomo Kenyatta and the less flamboyant, sober Mr Moi have held Kenya together effectively.

The pace of change is perplexing. It is hard to govern so vivacious and *ranshackle a country, so diverse in* peoples, both firmly and liberally as education expands. The battle between laisser-faire growth and inequality, between order and liberty, will sharpen. Kenya has been fortunate in its past. The future could be fruitful; it will never be calm.

Following the great man's footsteps

Daniel arap Moi lacks the subtlety of a Mugabe, the rhetorical flair of a Kaunda, the philosphical thoughtful*ness of a Nyerere*. He is a solid village primary schoolteacher who became a local worthy in the 1950s, moved into the provincial limelight by dint of hard work and schoolmasterly virtue, led the colonial-blessed and mainly non-Kikuyu opposition to Jomo Kenyatta before independence 20 years ago, but was absorbed into the leadership of the ruling and single party as part of the post-*Uhuru* consensus in 1946. Three years later he became vice-president, when the founding father died in 1978, the constitutional machinary projected Mr Moi into the top spot.

He is modest: "It *was difficult to fit* into the shoes of a great man like Jomo Kenyatta", he says. Some, especially the dominant Kikuyu, thought he would be a stop-gap. He has grasped power tightly.

His stolidness and lack of intellectual sophistication does not go down well with the university students and intellectuals – but they are not Kenya. The growing professional classes sometimes fear that Mr Moi too often speaks impulsively, from the hip, on issues that require caution and planning.

Purists, often Europeans who do not appreciate that politics in Kenya, as throughout Africa, are based primarily on patronage and on the play of ethnic checks and balances, complain that Mr Moi, with his immense business interests, is soft on corruption among *the political and business elite* (often one and the same). "I've managed to reduce corrupt practices . . . they exist in any society. I'm proud of what we've done", he insists. The scale may be less spectacular than at the end of the Kenyatta era, but most Kenyans reckon it is no less extensive. Even allowing for traditional indulgence towards privilege at higher levels, corruption has reached dangerous proportions.

Much more to the point: the masses undoubtedly *like him. He has the* common touch and seems ill at ease *with the political theory* of right as much as left. "My ideology", he says simply, "is stomach." When I suggested that the west was better at stomach, the Russians better at guns, he *hooted with laughter. Kenyans do* not like to admit that their official "non-alignment" is heavily pro-western.

He works exceptionally hard, travels ceaselessly, is genuinely committed to improving leaders, he is also courageously outspoken in favour of family planning – a very sensitive cultural issue. He has even suggested that "the government might have to step in . . . the message is getting through." Not fast enough, *probably, to remove Kenya* from its place as fastest breeder in the world, With an annual population rise of 4 per cent.

Over the past 20 years, he believes Kenya's greatest achievements are "the dismantling of a racially based society", where hospitals, schools, clubs and land were segregated, "the orderly transfer of wealth and land to Africans", and the forging of unity based on "political consolidation", meaning an undoctrinaire, fairly tolerant one-party state, with the proviso that "we have always held general elections at regular intervals". Three months ago, a third of MPs were peacefully voted out.

The growth of peasant prosperity is probably Kenya's greatest achievement, one that few African countries can match. Mr Moi conceded *that* coffee cooperatives are riddled with mismanagement and needed a clean-up, but he stated with pride that "70 per cent of our coffee and 40 per cent of our tea (*together with tourism the* country's chief earners) are produced by smallholders."

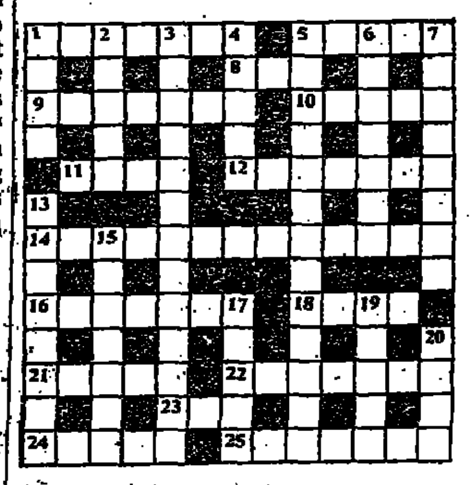
He is edgy at suggestions that Kenya has become more repressive. "For me it is far more important to *improve the lot* of the majority, he says.

***"I can't understand our friends in the* West who support these small minorities, who even cause loss of life" – a reference to the bloody coup attempt of August 1982 that did such harm to Kenya's *reputation abroad*.**

"People should not compare us with *the US and Britain. We started to put* democracy here 20 years go. We have a different background, a different history, with varying degrees of understanding of these things. If they want us to look like *them, they will destroy* us."

Would he step down voluntarily one day? He let out one of his periodic bellows of laughter which do much to soften the sometimes rather wooden, uncertain delivery. "You are asking me toq early . . . power *stems from the* people. But I wouldn't like to stick like a tick just for the sake of it".

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 219)



ACROSS
1 Pertinent (7)
5 Rubs lightly (5)
8 NZ honey-eating bird (3)
9 Tawny (7)
10 Nigerian river (5)
11 Apprehension (4)
12 Mexican American (7)
14 Basically (13)
16 Lobe ornament (7)
18 Whirlpool (4)
21 Indian loincloth (5)
22 Thrift (7)
23 Donkey (3)
24 Hazards (5)
25 Level (7)

DOWN
1 Charitable donations (4)
2 Moon crack (5)
3 Household head (13)
4 Resigned (5)
5 Christopher Robin's bear (6,3,4)
6 Plaited hair bunch (7)
7 Quartz gemstone (8)
13 Law breaker (8)
15 Highly strung (7)
17 Ganders' mates (5)
19 Comical (5)
20 Rhone capital (4)

SOLUTION TO No 218
ACROSS: 1 Raffia 5 Meddle 8 Boo 9 Remiss 10 Trough 11 Hash 12 Abeyance 14 Perfunctorily 17 Bulletin 19 Vast 21 Midrib 23 Assert 24 Bar 25 Belfry 26 Duenna
DOWN: 2 Arena 3 Frightful 4 Abstain 5 Motto 6 DSO 7 Logical 13 Arriviste 15 Erudite 16 Tankard 18 Tabby 20 Siren 22 Ref

moreover . . . **Miles Kington**

Cosmic News in Brief

President Grig of Glut, the richest galaxy in the Universe, announced yesterday (Upper Quadrant Time) *that the peace-keeping force he has* sent to Sapunkri would be reinforced by another three million troops. This was because the previous three million peace-keeping troops have been wiped out by a terrorist holocaust. So, come to that, has Sapunkri.

"Sapunkri, at this moment in time, has ceased to exist", said President Grig. "Our vigilance therefore has become all the more urgent. It is our sacred mission to keep peace in the black hole that used to be Sapunkri. Thank you."

Comrade Prop, leader of the People's Galaxy of Smelt, has denounced Glunt's peace-keeping force as a new provocation. He said he regarded the three million troops as enemies. To back up his word, he announced he would destroy them. To make things even clearer, he would destroy them this very moment. He pressed a black button on his video-desk. He then allowed himself the first smile of the evening.

The three million new peace troops in the Sapunkri hole have been destroyed.

President Grig of Glunt said that while he regretted the disappearance of his three million peace troops, he was glad that all their details were on memotape and that he could reconstitute them at a moment's notice. He then did so, and personally welcomed them back.

Today (Upper Quadrant Time) is the 4,000th anniversary of the assassination of Quingo Blueblatt, ex-President of the galaxy of Glunt. Many distinguished videopeople were present at the memorial 3-D rerun of the killing, including Quingo Blueblatt himself, who is reconstituted every year for the event. "I am glad to be here for the celebration of my death", he said, "especially as I am none the worse for my . . ."

At this point he was assassinated again.

During the semi-finals of the Unovision song contest, the outlying world of Ring-a-boom-boom was *destroyed by excess reverbs*. Despite apologies by the organizers, survivors of the holocaust seem undismayed. "It's all part of the fun", they said. Favourite for the final is three-headed singer Squish from Valium, with his-or-her song "I Love You, I Kill You".

Rumours of the death of Comrade Prop, leader of the People's Galaxy of Smelt, swept the known universe *today after he failed to appear for his* world's National Doomsday celebrations. Comrade Prop has become popular as the first communist leader to have a sense of humour, and he will be much mourned in the Lower Quadrant, where the poor planets are clustered.

Later: live TV transmissions from Smelt were announced, direct from Comrade Prop's lying-in-state. This seemed to confirm rumours of his death.

Later still: During a particularly solemn moment of Comrade Prop's lying-in-state, he leapt from his coffin and said to the cameras: "So much for rumours of my death! Had you there, didn't I?"

A scandal has blown up *in the* Inter-Galaxy Snooker Finals, now in its last year. Snooker is now computerised so that a *shot on any* table can be reproduced on any other table, which means that none of the *competitors has to leave home. But* Steve Bylon-2, the Glunt champion, is accused of tampering with the computer programmes so that the pockets move to meet his ball. The Video Squad have been called in to *investigate*.

Universal Telecom reminds all thinking creatures that tomorrow is the last day for telepathic messages for Universe Day. The weather will continue strange, with black holes in the Lower Quadrant and occasional asteroid showers everywhere. Now *here are the main points of the* Cosmic News again.



هكذا من الأصل

FRIDAY PAGE

Pat Jones is caught in a poverty trap. It has cost her her husband, her home and her happiness, as she tells Veronica Groocock

Drowning in a surging sea of debt

When Mrs Pat Jones first learnt that she had to give up her Birmingham home, she was heartbroken. It was the final and most harrowing blow in a long fight against accumulating debts, and she describes it as "like being kicked by a mule".

"We had struggled for so long, scraped the barrel for two or three years trying to keep on top of the mortgage (if nothing else), and now it's all gone. We've lost everything", she says.

Pat, aged 35, is a former nursing auxiliary and mother of six children: four girls and two boys, aged from 17 to 6. She is a cheerful, sensible person, but her face shows signs of strain as she recounts the troubled story of the family's money problems. Before Birmingham Council repossessed it last month, they had all lived for 10 years in the house on Woodgate Valley Estate on the outskirts of the city. In 1981 they decided to take up the council's offer of a 100 per cent mortgage.

"I always wanted to buy a house of my own", Pat recalls. "We moved into it when it was new, and I think that gives you an incentive. We were happy. It was a lovely house. We were going to do so *much* . . ."

Her husband, Barry, had chosen to take voluntary redundancy in 1979. He was a machinist with a car components firm that (as he had predicted) became bankrupt. He and his father then joined forces in a painting and decorating business.

"It got off the ground and everything was going fine, but in his first year he earned only *£3,000* which, to keep eight of us, was just a joke. I was working at the time, at St Mary's Hospice, and when his work started to fall off, I carried us through on my wages of £48 a week", Pat says.

Soon, almost imperceptibly, they found themselves caught in a vicious, downward spiral. "The rot set in when his work declined. Everything declined with it.

"We had been forced to sell the car, and Barry's dad lost a leg as a result of diabetes, so all the work dried up anyway. Then we had problems with the Inland Revenue. They more or less accused me of cooking the books."

Eventually, the business folded completely. It was the first time that Barry had ever been out of work. He began to claim supplementary benefit. Soon afterwards, Pat gave up her nursing job, partly because of the unsocial hours, but mainly because it was proving financially impractical (her earnings were being deducted from his social security payments, so that "all I was working for was £4 a week").

They slid deeper and deeper into debt. Household bills were put to one side and forgotten. Pat suffered from constant depression through sheer worry about making ends meet.

"I was in such a state over it all. Barry just used to 'up' and go out. We seemed to drift further and further apart. We could never talk about our financial troubles. *His* attitude was 'Never mind, let's keep going and hope for the best'. But *I* was the one answering the door to these people . . ."

Among the creditors were British Telecom, British Gas, the Inspector

I feel very sad because the children never have anything new

of Taxes, the local water authority and a catalogue collection agency. The biggest sums still outstanding are the mortgage and rates arrears, about £600 each.

The Department of Health and Social Security pays her gas bill direct now, and she has had an electric slot meter installed which clocks up an average of £2 a day. (When they have a Sunday roast the meter registers about £3.50.)



Pat Jones with her family, from left, Nathan, Donna, Temple, Emma, Holly and Tara: "We've lost everything"

Birmingham's Money Advice Centre, to which Pat turned for advice in June, has now compiled an administration order itemizing the family's debts. This arranges for a fixed amount to be divided among the creditors in agreed weekly instalments.

Then there are all the "unseen" extras, such as children's clothing, school photographs, and washing-machines that break down – as Pat's did recently: "It cost me £10. I had to borrow that".

Pat and Barry have now separated, after 17 years of marriage. It was no stormy, hammer-and-tongs parting, she says, but a direct result of their recent vicissitudes. "It's really very sad, because we used to get on really well, and he's a good father. We've had some nice times. . ."

A proficient DIY man, Barry's interest in the home quickly waned when their finances slumped. "He did all the kitchen in pinewood. It was beautiful. He was so upset at losing the house that he just ripped the lot out."

Pat and five of her children (Donna, the eldest, is staying with Pat's mother) have been rehoused in a much smaller house slightly further from the city centre. "I've always been able to turn to my mum. She's been very good", Pat says. Barry is staying temporarily with Pat's brother, who owns a pub in Birmingham.

The children seem to have adapted well to the family's changing circumstances. Even so, as a conscientious and caring mother, Pat is concerned about their day-to-day wellbeing: "I feel very sad", she says again, "because they never have anything new".

She groans at the thought of Christmas, remembering last year when "we sat here without a drink or anything. The kids had their things. It was the first year that Mum and Dad didn't come to us on Christmas Day. I think it was just because the atmosphere was so bleak."

When you are on the breadline, feeding a family of six is a perpetual worry, especially during the school holidays (the children have free school meals). "I do things like sausage and mash, egg and chips. But meat is a luxury."

The eldest son, Temple, 16, is a petty officer in the sea cadets. Recently he won an award for the best cadet of the year in the United Kingdom. The prize was a month's trip to Canada. He went there last July. "We were over the moon about it", his mother says.

She is proud, too, of her daughter, Donna, who landed a secretarial job within weeks of joining a government training scheme. Donna and her boyfriend took Pat and the youngest son, Nathan, who is partially sighted, on a camping holiday in Devon last summer. "She's such a thoughtful girl. We had a nice caravan and she paid for everything. . .

"People think that when you're down and out, it reflects on your kids, but I don't think it does. They're good kids – they *accept* – they know I haven't got the money."

Gloomily realistic, she realizes that she could face a lifetime of paying creditors: "It's like a millstone round my neck, all these debts are not going to vanish overnight."

Theirs is not a "standard of living", she protests, "just an existence. You can't ask 'What shall we have for tea?' "

Thanks to loyal friends and the efforts of the Birmingham Money Advice Centre, the pressure is less intense than it was. With hindsight,

We hung on for grim death thinking 'Something will turn up'

she wishes she had sought help earlier. Instead, "we kept hanging on for grim death thinking 'Something will turn up'."

They received no official written notification of the council's intention to take possession of their home. The Money Advice Centre, intervening on the family's behalf, faced a frustrating amount of "buck-passing" by council departments. "We didn't know for such a long time what would happen to us, and that made it worse."

In time, Pat Jones hopes that they will "bounce back". She feels now that their previous house was "unlucky" for them, and that a fresh start in a new environment might signal a change in their fortunes.

She often looks back and wonders "How am I in the mess I'm in today?" Neither she nor Barry had ever got into debt before. Neither of them was given to rash spending or bouts of extravagance. They had no hire-purchase payments to maintain. Through no fault of their own they found themselves in a poverty trap in which their living standards were eroded and they were denied even the most basic requirements of food, fuel and a roof over their heads.

"I'm worse off now at my age than I ever was", she says, "when things should be getting better with the kids growing up.

"When they were little, I worked and we managed. We've never had it really cushy, but we were able to have a fling sometimes. To think you've worked and scrimped all your life and ended up like this."

Who can help when the money runs out?

There are more than three million children in Britain whose parents are on the poverty line. As unemployment rises, a growing number of families are finding themselves steeped in debt. Today's debtors are not so much the "won't pays" but the "can't pays". A recent report by the National Consumer Council and Welsh Consumer Council describes who gets into debt, why and how, and what happens to them.

Mrs Shelagh Salter, chairman of the Welsh Consumer Council, explains: "The single most important cause of consumer debt today is a sudden unexpected drop in income – such as that which is caused by redundancy, short-time working, illness, a death in the family or marriage break-up.

"*Knocked for six by an event like* that, people who previously paid their bills promptly and responsibly may suddenly find themselves with little hope of repaying what they owe. Frozen in a blind panic, they may do nothing at all – except hope for a miracle. They don't know where to turn for advice and help – there is a severe shortage of money advice services. They may be ignorant of their rights and of the course that the law may take against them if they don't pay. Instead of doing the sensible thing and telling their creditors at the outset about their financial circumstances (which may ensure sympathetic treatment) they tend to keep quiet."

It is not easy to measure the full extent of debt in Britain today, says the report, because information is patchy. "But one thing is clear", says the National Consumer Council's Elizabeth Stanton, "it's growing. And although only a minority of people may be affected, for them it can be a nightmare.

"Many debtors are victims of some kind of crisis. That doesn't absolve them of their responsibilities but it does mean they should be treated with humanity, given an orderly way out of the mire and helped back on to sound financial ground."

The report includes examples such as the following:

- **Between 1979 and 1982 the proportion of loans from the 19 biggest building societies which were more than six months in arrears doubled from 0.19 per cent to 0.42 per cent.**
- **The number of tenants in rent arrears between 1980 and 1982 rose by almost half, and the amount outstanding more than doubled, among 13 Welsh housing authorities.**

It also makes certain recommendations for helping to prevent debt:

- **More education in consumer literacy and money management skills, which are needed by all school children to prepare them for adult life.**
- **Public bodies and commercial lenders should be sensitive to the individual circumstances of those who owe them money.**
- **Fuel boards and water authorities should use disconnexion only as a last resort.**

Debtors and their families must be protected from harassment, says the report, and expert money advice early on, before problems get out of hand, is crucial. Mrs Stanton says: "We look for a system that is firm but fair, effective but humane."

Of more than five million inquiries dealt with annually by citizens' advice bureaux, 100,000 involve debt. A report from the West Midlands, *Debt in the Recession*,* published earlier this year, suggests that around 20 per cent of their workload involves money-related problems. Fifty per cent of the project's cases were unemployed, with the failure of small businesses coming a close second.

Sheila Gibbons, a project worker and author of the report, said: "Debt is often thought to result from the ease with which people can take on credit. But most of the problems I dealt with involved the payment of basic essentials such as rent, rates, gas, electricity and clothing."

An estimated £9 million of debt has been handled by CABs in the West Midlands during 1983, a figure believed to be just the tip of the iceberg.

*Debt in the Recession: *The report of the Money Advice Development Project, a project funded by the West Midlands County Council.*

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Careful steps to rubella vaccination



The National Rubella Council campaign, launched with the support of the Princess of Wales recently, aims to encourage all teenage girls and adult women to accept rubella vaccination. Young girls, if they say yes to the jab, will generally be vaccinated as a matter of routine through the schools immunization programme. But if you are an older woman and are not sure whether or not you are already immune to rubella, a few extra steps have to be taken.

It is vital that you are not pregnant when you go for a vaccination. The rubella vaccine contains live virus. This does not mean that you will pass the infection to other people, but there is a small risk that the virus could infect the baby you are carrying, just as it could if you had contracted rubella casually.

For this reason your doctor will probably take a blood test to see if you are already immune to rubella before vaccinating you against the disease. If you are not immune, he or she will ask you to return soon after a period for vaccination, to make sure that you are not pregnant. Your doctor will also want reassurances that you will use adequate contraception for at least three months afterwards.

After-effects

Some 8,000 Israeli doctors shocked their countrymen earlier this year when they used strike action to wring better working conditions and a 60 per cent wage increase from their government. But their action may yet rebound with not a little irony. A survey in Jerusalem has shown that the people of that city didn't suffer disastrously without full medical care.

The strike closed 28 general clinics, leaving hospitals – which were also running at only 30 per cent capacity with skeleton staff – and seven impromptu aid stations to cope.

Yet throughout the 17-week strike no more people died than in a similar period the year before. Dr Paul Slater and Dr Pnina Ever-Hadani argue in The Lancet *that this raises the question whether in normal times Jerusalem has too many doctors.*

Water menace



The organism which causes the pneumonia known as Légionnaires' disease is commonly found in British hospitals and hotels, experts from the Public Health Laboratory Service have discovered. One laboratory found that 36 out of 54 hotels and hospitals had the organism, *Legionella*, in their water systems.

These findings, reported in the *Lancet*, should not evoke the panic which surrounded the first recognized outbreak of Légionnaires' at an American Legion convention seven years ago. The experts explain that it is simply more evidence that the organism is common and in most cases does not do much harm.

However, *Legionella* can cause sometimes fatal pneumonia in individuals who are already weakened by an underlying illness such as another chest infection, cancer or an immune system deficiency, and the findings do illustrate that measures to prevent these cases will have to be taken in a large number of establishments.

The PHLS experts, sponsored by the DHSS, hope to discover just where the organism is harboured – evidence points to hot water systems – and to devise ways of preventing its growth.

Child fears



Young children with chronic constipation are often miserable and a great concern to their parents. Pain from struggling to defecate leads to fear of going to the lavatory and a temporary loss of the reflex of responding to a full bowel. Some parents become so worried that the child is sent to hospital where the impacted faeces are removed and the child examined to make sure there is no obstruction.

Parents and child are usually reassured that nothing is wrong, but as soon as they all go home again the child slips back into the old pattern.

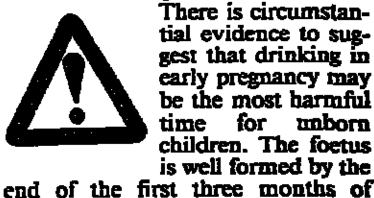
Increasingly, however, child psychiatrists and psychotherapists are becoming involved in helping children and parents change their behaviour at home. Dr Alison Fraser, tutor in child and adolescent psychiatry at the University of Manchester, has worked with children who had problems with involuntary soiling.

The impetus of the scheme is that children should be kept out of hospital because investigations can be counter-productive. The families were visited at home by Dr Fraser, or one of her colleagues, and asked to keep a record of the child's behaviour.

The children were first reminded to go to the lavatory regularly. They were then rewarded with a star or extra playtime with their parents. Children were further rewarded if they went to the lavatory without prompting and most importantly, any soiling was ignored.

Of the 55 children involved in the 10-month scheme, improvement was noticed in more than 60 per cent.

Critical days



There is circumstantial evidence to suggest that drinking in early pregnancy may be the most harmful time for unborn children. The foetus is well formed by the end of the first three months of pregnancy and it seems that there may be "critical days" within that period, when an excess of alcohol may lead to a baby being born with abnormalities – recognized as the foetal alcohol syndrome. But when the days fall is still open to speculation and research.

Women who continue to drink in early pregnancy, but then stop after being advised to at the "booking clinic" at hospital sometime between the eighth and sixteenth week, still produce smaller babies than those women who have cut down their alcohol consumption from the start.

All this cannot be of any great consolation to women who do not even realize they have conceived since as many as one in three to four pregnancies are unplanned.

Dr Peter Davis, a Warwickshire GP with a special interest in the efforts of alcohol on foetal development, also points out that at the moment about 1 to 2 per cent of all babies are congenitally deformed, but wonders whether any of these expected abnormalities are due to *overindulgence. He* stresses that only more research will provide the answer.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

COMMENT

Not quite equal to the task

Strange things are going on in Parliament this week in the name of sex equality. Today the Sex Equality Bill, a private members' bill presented by Jo Richardson, receives its second reading. And on Monday, the Government made its third attempt to introduce the Equal Pay (Amendment) Regulations in the House of Lords.

The history of the Equal Pay (Amendment) Regulations is unusual, to say the least. The European Court of Justice found Britain in breach of community law in July 1982, in that our legislation did not include the concept of equal pay for work of equal value. As a result, the Government prepared regulations and procedures which were passed in the House of Commons in July, but withdrawn from the House of Lords twice before being passed, with an amendment, last Monday.

The amendment, moved by Lord McCarthy, added to the motion of approval: "but that this House believes that the regulations do not adequately reflect the 1982 decision of the European Court of Justice and Article 1 of the EEC Equal Pay Directive of 1975."

It is a considerable defeat for the Government. The lords spoke passionately against the regulations, Lord Denning described their "tortuosity and obscurity". They are indeed obscure and tortuous. They are also objectionable in allowing the employer a far wider defence than in other equal pay cases.

Speaking in the Commons in July, the minister adduced "market forces" as a "material factor" employers could use in their defence. But it is precisely those "market forces" which allow women to earn only 74 per cent of what men earn. And the percentage is falling. What price then satisfying the EEC directive on equal pay?

Then there is the Sex Equality Bill. Among other things, it aims to introduce the concept of "equal value" into a long-overdue consolidation of the Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination Act. It also incorporates half the amendments to those Acts proposed by the Equal Opportunities Commission in 1982.

But it has grave defects. For instance, on this vexed equal value concept it concentrates on collective agreements, recommending that cases which may have a "substantial effect" on such agreements be referred to the central arbitration committee. That has some merit, yet Europe requires the right to determination of equal value claims by "judicial process", which means an individual before a court. The central arbitration committee is no court. But the industrial tribunal is.

More importantly, however, the Bill is designed to make unlawful discrimination on grounds of homosexuality. But discrimination on grounds of sexual preference is not discrimination on grounds of sex, and the Bill cannot pretend that it is.

What the Government should do now is produce new primary legislation containing the EOC's proposed amendments. Only then will the need for complicated subordinate legislation be over, and we will cease to be found constantly in breach of European law. But it shows no sign of doing so.

Today's debate is of enormous importance, however, and the Bill, despite reservations, is deserving of support, for it is a brave beginning to a long overdue process of establishing real equal treatment for women in the United Kingdom.

Julia Neuberger

THE TIMES DIARY

Will he, won't he?

Exactly who wrote what to whom in the Yorkshire Television/Ministry of Defence/IBA debate concerning tomorrow's televised transmission of *The Day After* promises to be more interesting than the programme itself. The Ministry claimed that Yorkshire's first written approach to Michael Heseltine asked only "would he like the opportunity to go on television?" after the programme.

Yorkshire Television seem to remember that the request to Heseltine took the form of a ten-paragraph letter, telexed to the Ministry on November 30, outlining exactly what they had in mind for the Ministry to do – that is, be interviewed by Robert Kee and take part in a panel discussion along with Robert McNamara and General Bernard Rogers. (After the telex was despatched, it was learned that General Rogers was unable to appear on the programme.)

Mr Heseltine didn't reply to Yorkshire or even send them a copy of the letter that he subsequently wrote to the IBA stating that the political direction of the film was unbalanced. Yesterday, Mr Heseltine received a reply from Lord Thomson, chairman of the IBA, who didn't disclose the contents of his letter to Yorkshire either.

By lunchtime yesterday Yorkshire, having been kept in the dark by practically everyone, were of the opinion that the Minister had decided not to appear but Mr Heseltine's assistant was saying, more promisingly: "I can't say that *he* wouldn't appear and I can't say that he can...."

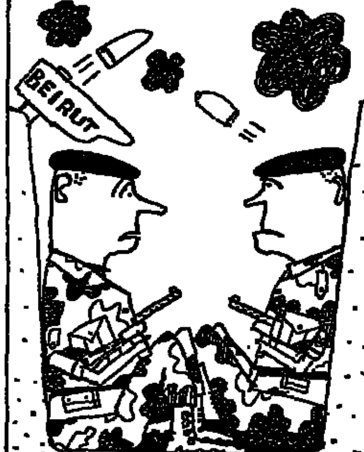
Head start

Imran Khan, the flamboyant captain of the Pakistan cricket team, has entered the beauty business, backing a hairdresser called Dar, formerly of Vidal Sassoon. According to the Asian newspaper *New Life*: "Dar has pampered the hair of celebrities like Elkie Brooks, Russell Harty and many top international models." Older readers will be reminded of Denis Compton lending his sleek good looks to the promoters of Brylcreem.

Double tempo

Some concertgoers are beginning to think that the GLC is "Working for the Arts in London" rather too strenuously. In its attempts to boost trade at the Royal Festival Hall, the council has introduced jazz sessions in the Music Box on the third floor. The sound of these sessions often filters through to the main concert hall, giving patrons two concerts for the price of one. People sitting near the back of the auditorium have complained that the jazz was often louder than the classical music they had come for. "The effect was rather like being in one of those restaurants where the musak drowns out your conversation", said one complainant. Tonight, the Digby Fairweather Quartet plays against Dame Janet Baker and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. And may the loudest performer win.

BARRY FANTONI



"One thing's certain: *this* won't all be over by Christmas"

Team spirit

President Canaan Banana of Zimbabwe has disclosed where he would like to be buried: Harare's Rufaro soccer stadium. The 47-year-old president, a football fanatic who helped found the Zimbabwe parliament's Tornado team, revealed his choice at a recent soccer stars' banquet.

● **The French might feel superior eating oysters rather than turkey at Christmas. But this year we have an opportunity for one-upmanship. The Loch Fyne Oyster Company will deliver their oysters to you by Securicor.**

Badge of courage

While Danuta Walesa is waiting to collect her husband's Nobel Prize in Oslo tomorrow, thousands of badges commemorating the occasion are being clandestinely produced in Poland. The badges simply say "Nobel '83" with a white dove fluttering below the large rounded letters made famous in the Solidarity logo. The badges are on sale in dimly-lit kiosks in churches. Profits are going to the families of imprisoned Solidarity members.

Silver lining

The very day after the Athens summit failed, the European Commission announced it had granted "a negative clearance to a know-how agreement". It was apparently something about who was allowed to make the rubber things which keep rainwater out of cars. Perhaps Athens was not such a failure after all.

PHS

PR: call in the professionals

by David Burnside

Would Mrs Thatcher ever have considered putting Lord Whitelaw, Mr Biffen or Mr Pym in charge of coordinating and presenting Conservative policies during an election campaign?

Surely not. In the tight discipline of an election, the Conservative Party has shown, both in 1979 and even more so in 1983, that it is up to all the tricks of the public relations and marketing trade. The clearly amateur Labour campaign organization and the over-flamboyant trendiness of the Alliance were no match for the slick and authoritative machine in Smith Square.

Why then is the Conservatives' performance or even their apparent understanding of public relations so abysmal when in government?

Let us take an example. No public relations man can change the fact that the burden of taxation has risen under this government. To try to claim otherwise would be blatant distortion – and quite unconvincing. Yet if the Government retains, from the Prime Minister down, a commitment to tax reduction, it should surely be within the wit of its PR men to orchestrate a popular campaign to promote the economic advantages of less tax – the advantages spelled out quite well in its two recent manifestos – and to explain what must be done to achieve it. On past performance, it is unlikely that such a campaign will be launched, let alone be successful.

Mr Pym, responsible for government PR from 1981 to 1982, could not coordinate the representation of the Government's policies and "corporate image" because he did not really believe in either. Mr Biffen, between 1982 and 1983, adopted the fatalistic approach of a "true Tory" so convinced of the Conservatives' right to govern that re-election would come naturally rather than having to be worked for.

What are Lord Whitelaw's prospects? To start with, he can only fail in his stewardship if government public relations is confined to using his seniority to stop his more junior colleagues saying the wrong thing at the wrong time.

As in policy formulation, policy projection can only be carried out successfully if the established government information service is demoted from its present dominating and influencing role in No 10 and government departments. There is a need for a fully-fledged Prime Minister's Department and it should contain a PR secretariat to serve Lord Whitelaw in his new-found role. Its staff should be drawn not from governmental service but from the private sector, and developed and financed on the same lines, which is accepted by all parties, as the small band of policy advisers who at present surround a number of ministers.

Certainly, a No 10 press secretary and departmental heads of information should be appointed (and trained) to manage the day-to-day dissemination of departmental information. It is time these officials were relieved of the task of advising ministers on strategies for policy presentation. Public relations is not just about passing out data; it requires expertise, planning and, in a political environment, political sensitivity. By tradition, training and, largely, inclination, those currently charged with the task of coordinating government PR are not suited to the role.

Without radical structural change, government public relations will inevitably continue its present course; conflicting speeches from different ministers, poorly written, badly timed, and fired shot-gun fashion at the media and the public; ministers popping up on television and radio ill-prepared, half-hearted and often quite oblivious to the demands of this "modern" medium of communication; an accent on defence, post justification and minimization of damage.

It is a tragedy that a Conservative government has to rely on winning elections despite itself and hoping for continuing failures and inadequacies from its opponents, rather than running a sustained and planned PR campaign, culminating in the six-week, purely party, battle at the hustings. Just as they did in 1983, the party professionals and advisers will again, in 1987-8, be forced to rescue the vote-winning potential of the Conservative Party in the run-up to a general election, so decimated by its dire PR performance during its years in government.

The author is public relations director to the Institute of Directors.

David Butler asks why the Tories still ride high after six indifferent months

Winning in spite of themselves

Six months ago today Mrs Thatcher was reelected with the biggest majority since the war. Today, surprisingly, polls show that the Government still retains the 43 per cent support recorded on June 9. The Conservatives do not seem to have paid any electoral price either for the embarrassments that have beset them, or for the recent improvements in Labour's image.

At the beginning of the new Parliament Mrs Thatcher was snubbed over the speakership, over MPs' pay, and over capital punishment. The Government has been visibly inept in its handling of foreign affairs and of the Parkinson scandal. And health service cuts have brought into salience one of the few issues on which it was patently a loser. Although the economic indicators have shown some improvement, Mr Lawson's utterances on taxation, taken in conjunction with the speeches of Mr Walker and Mr Pym, as well as the growls from the right wing, have hardly left an impression of a strong government confidently striving prosperity.

At the same time, Labour has come unscathed through what had promised to be a devastating leadership conflict. Neil Kinnock with his charm and potential appeal has replaced the low-rated Michael Foot. During the honeymoon period, the party has done nothing to remind the electorate of the divisions that proved so alienating in the previous parliament.

Why then has the electorate failed to show its accustomed volatility? After six indifferent months, the Government is still handsomely ahead in the polls. Not since 1961 has the party in power managed to stay sustainedly in front for more than 18 months. Have the rules of the political game changed fundamentally?

For the last five years the path of British politics has defied the expectations of participants and observers alike. In 1979, no one envisaged three million unemployed, and no one would have forecast the re-election of a government that presided over such record joblessness. The automatic assumption that unemployment cost votes has been shattered.

But new assumptions grow up. The wild instability of the polls between December 1980 and June 1982 (confirmed by the results of by-elections and local elections) taught us to expect a continuing see-saw from an ever more volatile electorate:

Voting intentions November 1980 to June 1982 (MORI)

	Cons	Lab	Alliance
Highest	48	50	13%
Lowest	27	27	44%

When every party saw its strength change by more than 20 per cent within a few months, politics had reached a new pitch of uncertainty. But since then an unexpected stability has come over the scene:

Voting intentions July 1982 to December 1983 (MORI)

	Cons	Lab	Alliance
Highest	47	36	30%
Lowest	41	26	18%

After the Bermondsey by-election and again during the general election, the Alliance crept up momentarily on Labour. But, by and large, since the Falklands war the broad pattern of party support has stayed within a point or two of Conservative 44 per cent, Labour 34, Alliance 20.

Since last October, Labour's support, which during the early stages of its leadership fight stayed at or below its general election abyss, has climbed up, stealing perhaps two points from the Conservatives and six from the Alliance.

Voting intentions fluctuate in response both to events and to changing conceptions about the leaders and the parties. Leaders may matter less than many suppose, but certainly their images today are sharply differentiated. Collectively the Conservatives are seen as the party which "has the best leaders" (52 per cent say Conservative to 21 per cent Labour). Although Mrs Thatcher has a slightly lower rating on almost every quality today than she did nine months ago, perceptions of her outstanding characteristics are unchanged – 82 per cent still see her as stubborn, 78 as tough and 60 per cent as resolute; only 28 per cent see her as caring and 15 per cent as warm.



"... then pour the boiling water out of the kettle into the teapot"

Garland's comment in The Daily Telegraph *last April.*

The public gives Mr Kinnock a better rating than Mr Foot on almost every quality: he is seen as more caring (42 per cent) and warm (31 per cent) than Mrs Thatcher but less tough (38 per cent), stubborn (33 per cent), or resolute (34 per cent). The findings suggest a sense of suspended judgment about Neil Kinnock as a leader.

But, over time, issues matter more than personalities. Current attitudes on key problems remain the main source of Conservative strength. On the handling of almost every subject except the health service the Conservatives continue to outrate Labour. Even on the volatile and increasingly salient questions of defence policy, the public continues to be heavily multilateralist, even if it is evenly divided on cruise.

Although party support has been unexpectedly stable over the last 18 months, there is no reason to suppose that this will continue. The factors that have loosened the glue of party loyalty so spectacularly over the last 20 years are still at work.

Moreover, the essential weaknesses of each of the parties are still there. Labour's solid working-class base has been eroded by the spread of house ownership and the growth in non-manual employment. And its prospects are limited by its structure and its ideological involvements.

A year from now the process of reselection will start and news reports about the party will focus on the constituency troubles of some leading Labour MPs. The party is in financial straits and the current Employment Bill may make things far worse.

The Alliance, despite its 25 per cent of the votes last June, and its generally inoffensive image, has still to settle its internal disputes. The dualism of the two Davids may be far more damaging than any of the leadership troubles of the last few years. Moreover the Alliance will have great difficulty in securing publicity for anything save its quarrels. It must rely on stupidities by its larger rivals and a fortunate incidence of by-elections to reassert its prominence. It has a larger bridgehead than three years ago but the spectacular breakthrough of 1982 will be harder to repeat in 1985.

The Conservatives can look forward to four years in power. Yet their position is flawed. They have less support in votes than any Conservative government since 1922. They depend on a strong leader who is admired rather than loved; their secondary leaders are notably lacking in charisma or communication skills. The conflict between a middle-of-the-road pragmatism and a militantly free enterprise ideology has more divisive potential than ever before.

The economic future remains uncertain. It will be strange if, at the least, the Conservatives escape the mid-Parliament slump. Remember Orpington (1962)? Sutton and Cheam (1972)? Hillhead (1982)?

The author is a Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Freezing out the urban terrorist

It was five minutes past curtain-time, and I was beginning to wonder (knowing that at this particular theatre they tend to be punctual in starting) whether all was not well with the leading lady, when a familiar figure appeared in front of the curtain and said, with a kind of authoritative charm, "Ladies and gentlemen, I'm afraid we have a rather special kind of problem this evening, and we must ask you to leave the building at once – the police will notify you when you may return".

We rose, and proceeded in an orderly fashion to the exits. (Two members of the audience were seen *running*, but it was agreed by the rest of us that they must have been foreigners.) In the hour or so we spent on the pavement in weather that would have frozen a penguin, it was possible to reflect on certain questions of the day in a particularly concentrated manner.

First, it was noticeable that nobody at all was in doubt as to the meaning of the management's words, though "bomb", "telephone-call" and "danger" were not among them. Second, nobody grumbled, except at the perishing cold; those who might be presumed to have caused us our discomfort were not abused *in absentia*, nor was there any sense of outrage. Nobody even denounced the management for closing the cloakrooms as soon as the evacuation order was decided upon, and nobody ventured the opinion that they should have treated the telephone-call as the hoax it was overwhelmingly likely (and in the event proved) to be.

Next, it was apparent once more that an emergency always brings out the friendliness in the British; people who had never met before were talking to each other within a few minutes, and I daresay that in years to come there will be devoted couples telling their friends "We met in a bomb-scare". (Kenneth Tynan, reviewing *The Iceman Cometh*, said that in the fourth hour the atmosphere in the theatre was exactly like that in a wartime air-raid shelter, with "complete strangers offering one another wine-gums".)

And finally, I had the melancholy and useless satisfaction of knowing that I solved this problem some years ago, and publicly announced my solution, too, though I did not expect anything to be done (nor was it), because the people who would have had to do the doing were those in charge of the telephone- service; I have no expectation that British Telecom will be any more heedful than their predecessors, but I may as well repeat my solution anyway. It is to change from our present telephone system of what is technically known as "Calling party release" to "Called party release". At present if I call you and you hang up but I don't, you remain connected to me; if the system were inverted, the bomb-hoaxer (or genuine bomb planter for that matter) would hang up, having given his ominous message, only to find that he was still connected to his victim, thus enabling him to be traced promptly and with certainty.

Meanwhile, a few conclusions can be drawn. It is little more than a decade since serious urban terrorism in civilized western societies began; before that, there was nothing to worry about, apart from the internecine wars of Chicago gangsters, a brief flurry by the IRA just before the Second World War, and the random actions of those who were collectively known as anarchists and who were so little regarded as a threat to society that the type was always portrayed as a comic figure with a cloak, a fringe beard, and a round "infernal machine" which was gently smoking and invariably labelled "Bomb".

Nous avons changé tout cela. And yet... Air piracy is of the same modernity as bomb-planting, but we no more grumble at, or find in any way surprising, the searches of luggage and person at airports than we get hysterical, or even seriously cross, when we are turned out of a theatre. Every now and again a real bomb goes off in a city far removed from areas of endemic political violence; unless it causes large numbers of casualties (particularly among horses) it now makes hardly a ripple across the public consciousness. Baader-Meinhof Gangs, Red Army Fractions, Weathermen – they have killed people from time to time, but not more, I imagine, than are struck by lightning, or indeed are accounted for by the Charles Mansons and Dennis Nilsens and their like. (There are as many "ordinary" murders in Los Angeles in a single year as there have been corpses in Northern Ireland attributable to terrorism since the present "Troubles" began.)

Of course, the hoaxers have battened on the activities of the killers in a manner which is unique to our time, and there must be dozens of false alarms to every real emergency. That makes life more troublesome, as those who went wheezing about their business the day after our pavement vigil in the cold could testify; if it comes to that, there were, no doubt, people who had to leave before the end of the performance to catch their last trains and buses, though if the curtain had gone up on time they could have stayed to the end.

What does all that amount to? A few horrible deaths and injuries; a far greater quantity of inconvenience patiently and light-heartedly borne (when the "sniffer" dogs arrived – gentle-looking Labradors – and lolloped into the theatre as into a Disney cartoon, they were greeted by laughter rather than cheers); and, surely, the defeat, almost total, of the enemy.

Are lives seriously disrupted or made less worth living by such trivia? In Lebanon, life must be hardly bearable; in Belfast it must be at least very different; but I am not talking of the centres of violence, only of the violence in those countries where it is either random (as in West Germany and Italy) or designed (as in mainland Britain) to bring pressure to bear on those who will ultimately have to decide whether the centres of violence can be pacified by political action.

The truth that emerges is very encouraging. First in the United States, then in Western Germany, then increasingly in Italy, the political urban terorists have been reduced to tiny handfuls of disheartened wretches. They have been reduced by patient, unwavering work on the part of democratic authorities and their forces of order, and by the refusal of the general public either to panic or to demand that peace should be achieved by surrender.

There was neither fear nor anger on that chilly pavement the other night; only an instinctive understanding that the price we were paying to keep our society not only free but calm and ordered was ludicrously small compared to what it was buying. If the hoaxer who turned us out into the night *is* caught, I think six months or so in the hoosegow would be appropriate, besides tending to discourage others like him, for it is not actually *fun* to freeze to death even if everybody around you is freezing to death as well. But if we have to waste a few minutes at an airport, or to get cold outside a theatre once a year, or even to be startled from time to time by a loud bang followed by the sound of fire-engines and ambulances, civilized life will not become impossible, or even seriously diminished. And even if we have to put up with those things for decades to come, that will remain true. Why, when in the interval of the resumed performance I met the spokeman who had made the original ominous announcement, I shook his hand warmly, in token that all was forgiven. And in truth there was nothing to forgive.

David Watt

What's left when the dust settles?

When the nuclear catastrophe film *The Day After* (which Britain will see tomorrow) was shown on American television, it was followed not only by a homily from a senior member of the government but also by a panel discussion of experts. The most interesting contribution to this session came from Dr Carl Sagan, a physicist from Cornell University, who has become a considerable TV personality in the United States, thanks to his skilful presentation of programmes about space. Sagan's complaint about *The Day After* was that it was far too soft. In his view, it grossly underestimates the horror of nuclear war by ignoring two of the most severe after-effects; darkness and cold.

The work of a group of American scientists suggests that the result of the kind of nuclear exchange imagined in the film, would be a "nuclear winter" lasting up to a year, in which light would be severely reduced, if not extinguished, and temperatures in many parts of the medium latitudes of the northern hemisphere might fall to freezing in summer, and arctic frost in winter.

This hypothesis is just beginning to get publicity in Britain and in the aftermath of *The Day After* it is likely to get more. Moreover, if it is true, its significance can hardly be over-emphasized; for it would overturn the whole of the conventional view about deterrence and the nature of nuclear war. It is very important, therefore, to understand what is involved.

The first and main thing to grasp is that this is a quite new twist to the argument. In the past there has been plenty of talk about the danger likely to be caused by the debris thrown up into the atmosphere by a large number of nuclear blasts at ground level or a little above it. But after considerable debate, scientists have generally concluded in recent years, that most of the dust would be of sufficient bulk to come down fairly fast and what was left in the stratosphere and the lower atmosphere after a few days or weeks would be no more than is thrown up by a single large volcanic erruption – much more dangerous, certainly, since it is radioactive, but not enough to make permanent or fundamental changes in the environment or endanger life on a grand scale. Those far enough from the explosions to escape blast and burns, and able to take cover from the contamination of immediate fall-out, would survive.

The essence of the new theory is that it takes account of a factor that has not been seriously considered before, namely smoke. The blasts would cause devastating fires. Cities, forests and grasslands would burn fiercely, but incompletely, for many days, and project scores of tons of soot particles into the troposphere (lower atmosphere). Now soot particles have different properties from normal dust. They are very small and therefore do not fall to earth so fast. Second, being carbonaceous, they are highly absorbent. A thick smoky layer would spread within a few weeks over large areas of the northern hemisphere.

Because solar radiation would be absorbed by it, there would be immediate drops in temperature of up to several tens of degrees centigrade, and very little light. Moreover, as the sooty blanket warmed up in the middle troposphere, faster, to add to the layer. The resulting atmospheric balance – a warm smoke layer overlaying a cool air layer of cold earth – would reduce rain and snowfall and help stabilize the mass so that these conditions would probably last for many months.

The damage that might be done by this state of affairs depends, clearly, on its severity and duration. It is common ground that those who live beside oceans would be better off than others, because the sea acts as a storer of heat. But if, as Mr Sagan and others now claim, the minimum temperature on the big American and Eurasian land masses after a 5,000-megaton war, were –23°C even in summer, and the light, after a 10,000 megaton war too little to support photosynthesis for many months, the biological consequences might well be the disappearance of huge tracts of vegetation resulting, by a chain reaction, in the death of animals and in fearful famine.

This scenario is, or ought to be, music in the ears of any sensible person interested in peace. For if it is right, it has the priceless advantage of demonstrating to any American or Soviet leader that if he launches a massive nuclear attack it will produce his own destruction *automatically*. This is the first point: unlike the deterrents contained in the opponent's possession of nuclear weapons (which is dependent on many imponderables, such as will-power, invulnerability of missiles to first strike, and so forth) this deterrent is absolutely certain, and inherent in the nature of the earth and the sky. The second point is that (unlike President Reagan's will o' the wisp of an infallible anti-missile defence) it is not destabilizing. It does not do away with nuclear weapons and the caution that goes with a nuclear stalemate. For the possibility of one's opponent using a strictly limited number of nuclear weapons and therefore avoiding a nuclear winter would remain; and with it, the necessity of possessing some nuclear weapons oneself.

The only thing is: is it true? I have consulted a few British scientists in this field and they are understandably cautious. There are many uncertainties in the hypothesis, and the actual figures of a likely temperature drop are highly sensitive to them. Using an only slightly different model of the rate and direction that particles normally spread in the atmosphere, and making slightly different assumptions of the quantities of soot produced, or the amount of cloud cover at the time of the explosions, or the exact amount of dispersion to be expected from rain or wind, one comes up (as another group of scientists in California have done) with a temperature drop of only 10 to 15 degrees, rising again to no more than 3 degrees below normal within 90 days.

Nevertheless, everyone – including the authors of a Soviet study – seems to agree (a) that temperature disturbances of some kind are very plausible and (b) that the effect of soot particles is a neglected and important factor in the post-nuclear equation which ought to have much more study. There will now, presumably, be a pause while a considerable dog-fight in the scientific community takes place. Meanwhile the vision of a dark and freezing planet is a terrible and haunting one.

Philip Howard

And we'll all pool together...

The Old Coll is starting a museum. Belt up the Harrovians and other trouble-makers at the back who shouted that it always was one. This summer Eton College is going to open the first public historical museum of a major British school. (Winchester and Harrow have galleries of works of art with some historical material; but not historical museums within the meaning of the Act; in any case their histories are far less interesting.)

The Provost of Eton, Lord Charteris, is about to send a letter to selected Old Etonians appealing for such memorabilia as a pre-1914 top hat (preferably with Pop seals), early reports and school books, a "long glass" from Tap. Please send nothing to the old boy until solicited. He does not wish to be buried beneath bits of carpentry laboriously made by grandpa in the School of Mechs, or photographs of house groups, unnamed.

The reason for this innovation is an interesting social change. Eton, without trying or wanting it, is attracting more than 60,000 tourists a year, mostly during the summer holidays. They come on the bus tour circuit from Windsor, or even from Heathrow, where enterprising companies pick them up from hotels while they are waiting between long-distance flights.

When I was a lad in College, visitors from outside were rare creatures: the parents of tugs (*togati* or King's Scholars) tended not to run to cars or the petrol. In my first half Thompson K.S. ran into Long Chamber shouting: "Howard, a bus-load of your relations has arrived to visit you."

They turned out to be Africans visiting my parents on Moral-Rearmament business. At the time I was not amused.

Visitors come from all round the world today, without exciting the *Little Etonian* comment that they used to. It is sensible and admirable to give them a museum showing the history of the school. It will be housed in the fifteenth-century vaulted Undercroft beneath College Hall, where the wine for high table and College beer (brewed next door in the Brewhouse) were stored.

One of the things we are going to have is a cupboard of things confiscated by beaks. We already have three offerings: the inevitable packet of black Sobranies, a hollowed-out book for concealing the same, and an outsize veterinary syringe (from the days before drugs), bought at Boots for the purpose of terrorizing smaller boys.

We are going to have a mock-up of a boy's room of about a hundred years ago, and have much of the furniture in hand, including the burry (from the French *bureau*, do you suppose, Watson?), fold-up bed, wash-box, brush-box, and so on. We still need a really nice ottoman, and even a cane chair (plenty around, but people want to keep them). The room should probably purport to belong to an Oppidan wet-bob in Pop, so that he can have accumulated the prettiest buttons and bows for the simple-minded available.

The museum will have to grasp the nettle of corporal punishment, since it is the subject that most arouses the curiosity of Eton's visitors. There will have to be an account of tanning and swishing, the block and Dr Keate of the strong right arm, who broke mutinies of boys by mass floggings that went on for hours. I avoided the birch, though I had to attend its application as a praepostor in the awful solemnity. I nearly fainted, and I don't think Robert Birley enjoyed it much, either.

Manifold other delights are promised, including a gallery of distinguished Old Etonians from different centuries, as it might be Boyle, Shelley, Eric Blair, and so on. I predict establishment canvassing and ambitious rivalry about who goes in there as intense as the rivalry about who gets his *Field colours*. It is a great school and a repository of learning and English history – contrary to its image in the sensational press. Its museum will be a fascinating addition to our national archive of museums.

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THE TIMES

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AIMS FOR THE ALLIANCE

Nato foreign ministers are meeting in Brussels amid greater uncertainty than usual about the aims and prospects of the alliance. On the one hand there can be optimism that the military balance between East and West is in reasonable shape and that recently elected governments have been able to start implementing the Nato decision of 1979 on intermediate nuclear weapons. Clearly there is still a reassuring bedrock of confidence and continuity in the alliance. On the other hand there has been an increase in public unease which has expressed itself through opposition parties, primarily in Britain and West Germany, which have broken away from the central consensus on security.

If these parties do not return to the centre they could make the alliance itself an issue in future elections. It will therefore be more important than ever over the next few years for Nato to develop policies which are not only rational in themselves, and agreed among governments, but which also retain broad confidence among electorates. Public confidence in government is just as much part of security as military preparedness and economic prosperity. This is not just a matter of public relations and argument. The majority of voters should be credited with sufficient realism to distinguish the central issues of the alliance from peripheral disagreement, and to see when the alliance is properly representing the security interests of its members.

Controversy over missile deployments is not really a central issue. It is a symptom of a deeper feeling that the alliance has been losing its sense of direction and consequently its cohesion. Several areas of disagreement are involved. The Americans feel that Europe is not contributing funds appropriate to its wealth, and that it is insufficiently conscious of the extent to which its security interests could be threatened from outside the Nato area by interruptions in the supply of oil or other raw materials. Europeans reply that if they spend more they will damage their precarious economic health and thereby reduce their security more than by forgoing some weapons or men. Many also argue that they do understand their dependence on lifelines to the Middle East and elsewhere but merely disagree with the Americans on the best means of protecting them.

There have also been growing debates about the extent to which Nato defence depends on the early use of nuclear weapons. New developments in guidance system and other areas of technology make it possible to have a much more effective conventional defence, so that the use of nuclear weapons could be delayed, but these new weapons are expensive. Much could be saved by better standardization of Nato equipment but at some point electorates may have to be asked whether they want to make the financial sacrifices necessary to realize their wholly reliance on nuclear weapons – particularly the West German electorate since that is the critical part of Nato's frontier.

Meanwhile Nato will have to tackle another major source of disquiet, which is the widespread feeling in Europe that it has lost sight of its obligation, regularly reaffirmed in Nato documents, to pursue security through political and diplomatic means as well as military. The two tracks of Nato policy – military preparedness and negotiation – are not confined to the decision on missile deployments. There is no doubt that the sharp deterioration in relations between the super powers has contributed a lot to the fears which have spawned the protest movements. Obviously Nato cannot return to the optimism of the early days of detente, which have been shown now to have fostered illusions about possible breakthroughs in East-West relations. The fundamental antagonisms will remain for the foreseeable future. But there can be dialogue and negotiation without inflated hopes or unnecessary concessions, and this is increasingly necessary both to reassure Western electorates and also to remind the Soviets that the West is always open for business, on the basis of fair dealing.

It is in this area in particular that Lord Carrington will be able to make an outstanding contribution. His appointment as Secretary General is therefore not only welcome but just right in its timing. No one can accuse him of having illusions about communism, yet he is neither aggressive nor ideological in his approach. His calm pragmatism is just what is needed at this moment. Coupled with immense diplomatic skills and wide contacts it should enable him to reduce Atlantic differences and nudge the alliance into a more coherent approach to the Soviet Union. If successful this will also help to persuade doubting members of the public that Nato is not just a war-fighting machine but a political alliance dedicated to certain values. As Lord Carrington said in his Alastair Buchan Memorial lecture in April: "The West must be true to its own values. It is the Leninist tradition which is one of conflict, not cooperation. Our own tradition must be for the peaceful resolution of conflict through energetic and forceful dialogue."

A LITTLE PIECE OF ENGLAND

Calke Abbey is not one of the great English country houses. It is a handsome baroque pile of anonymous authorship put up at the start of the eighteenth century and given neo-classical trimmings a hundred years later. It sits low in the seclusion of its deer park, grouped with church and stables and clumps of trees, in the middle of the populous north Midlands but withdrawn from them.

Inside, as if the outcome of a successful experiment with time, there is preserved fresh and in full the furnishings and hangings, the furniture specimen cabinets and bric-a-brac, the tackroom and workshops, of a Victorian estate. It is that – the harmony of its surroundings and integrity of its interior – that makes Calke Abbey extra-special. The hyperbole of art historians and heritage buffs in extolling the place may owe something to the fact that they have only just been able to get into it. Even discounting the highest flights of enthusiasm Calke Abbey is without question worth preserving intact.

Its remarkable resistance to the march of time is explained by the recurrent reclusive tendency of the Harpur-Crewe family, which has owned the property since 1622. One baronet or another would settle into his vast estates to manage them in a benevolent and eccentric fashion, turning his back on society beyond the demesne, doing perhaps the duty of high sheriff of the county when his turn came round, or raising a troop of yeomanry in case of national emergency. Otherwise he would be wrapt in solitary pursuits, of which 200 cases of stuffed birds are the only memorial.

The mansion being vast, a new occupant had no need to clear the clutter of his predecessor: he chose another room. And so the accumulation and fossilization continued, far surpassing Erddig or Osborne. The later Harpur-Crewes were slow to embrace the amenities of modernity. The motor car came to Calke in 1949, the electric light in 1960, the arts of tax avoidance never.

And that is now the trouble. Vast capital taxes are being exacted on the death of the present owner's brother in 1981. Prudent administration would have reduced the liability, but would it have tolerated the inconvenience of keeping everything exactly as it was? Mr Harpur-Crewe has offered house, contents and park to the nation in lieu of part of the tax bill. The Treasury would accept it if the National Trust would in turn accept it. The trust cannot without funds for repair and endowment for maintenance, requirements put at £3.6 million and £4.1 million respectively. It has accordingly been proposed that a further 7 or 8,000 acres of "non-heritage" land be accepted by the Treasury in lieu of tax to act as capital sum and endowment.

That rational solution has been rejected. It is clear from the minister's speech in the adjournment debate on Monday night that the proposal was judged and fell according to the norms of internal government financing. The tax would be foregone, there would be hypothecation (dread word) of revenue, there would have to be reallocation of funds from other programmes, a precedent would be set and a bad example.

In fact the precedent and example, if any, would be excellent. A country house deemed worthy to be preserved for the enrichment of our culture and the enjoyment of the public would be maintained from the rents of agricultural land dedicated to that purpose. That is the source from which such houses always were maintained, and what better source for the future? To be acquiring public assets of an agricultural kind while strenuously selling off public assets of an industrial and commercial kind might be thought to be slightly embarrassing. But another of the present Government's priorities is to arrest the decline in the number of agricultural tenancies. Ministers have a Bill in the Lords to that end. By rejecting the "in lieu" proposal for the Harpur-Crewe estate they are rejecting one sure way of keeping the bulk of that land in the rented sector and actually propelling it out.

The minister now urges the interested bodies to put their heads together and come up with an alternative scheme for securing Calke Abbey. One hopes that may be possible. But their heads have already spent a lot of time together without an alternative being found. The prospect is not very good. Meanwhile the best chance will very soon be lost.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Prison terms of unequal value

From Mrs Sarah McCabe

Sir, The writer of your third leader, "The place of parole" (December 3) drew attention to the principles of punishment upon which the Home Secretary will rely in excluding from release on licence certain categories of offences.

These general principles, retribution for the specific offence committed and deterrence from similar offences which might be contemplated either by the offender himself or by others, are, of course, the basis of the judges' calculation of the appropriate length of imprisonment for the mischief done by each offence.

Until now this calculation was relatively simple; custom and occasional guidance from the appeal courts established that such and such an amount of fraud or theft, in such or such circumstances, would merit a sentence of, say, five years, while violence or damage of a particular kind or degree would deserve the same.

It is generally assumed that the establishment of the parole system did not disturb this calculation because each man or woman sentenced would have an equal chance of release on parole when the risk of reoffending and prospects of resettlement were taken into account. In other words, the sentencing system and the system of parole were deemed to be separate and distinct.

The Home Secretary's statement of November 30 changed all that. Since the sentences for certain classes of offence are not to carry with them the likelihood of parole, like sentences no longer have equal value. Thus, sentences of more than five years offer the possibility of parole to thieves or conmen but not to drug traffickers or violent offenders. The sentencing system and the parole system have become interdependent.

In these circumstances it must be assumed that judges, both in sentencing and in the process of appeal, will have to consider the different values of sentences over five years that are now applicable to different categories of offences.

Will we now see an upward movement in sentences for serious fraud or theft to catch up with non-parolable sentences for serious violence or a downward movement in sentences for violence to match their parolable equivalents? Or has the sentencing system, which has been calculated in units of time for a general measure of the mischief effected, been shattered beyond repair?

Yours faithfully,
SARAH McCABE,
1 Stoke Place,
Old Headington, Oxford.
December 5.

Private belief and public reference

From the Archbishop of York

Sir, I have so far refrained from replying to your criticisms of my sermon on public faith in the hope that others would do the job better than myself – as indeed many of them have. Before the correspondence closes, however, I would like to add two further points, both of which are spelt out at much greater length in my book, *Church and Nation in a Secular Age*.

The first concerns the question of truth. As I understand your editorial (November 21), you were proposing an extreme subjectivist view of religious truth, which has the merit of putting it beyond the possibility of refutation, but in the long run renders it uninteresting. To make truth claims which go beyond mere subjectivism, as I myself would wish to do, is inevitably to enter into the public realm and to imply the existence of concepts and categories in terms of which the claims can be substantiated.

A belief is not necessarily true just because a lot of people share it, but it cannot even be claimed as true in anything but a trivial sense unless it is in some measure publicly accessible.

My concept of public faith has more to do with this intellectual and emotional accessibility of religion than with the kind of head-counting mistakenly envisaged by some of your correspondents. To take a simple but relevant example, what meaning could be given to the title, "The way of the Cross", without its public frame of reference in Christian history?

Clifford Longley (feature, December 5) is right to see that the corollary of public faith is a much more searching ecumenism – and this is my second point. But he is wrong, surely, to tie this to the extraordinary notion that what the Church has to say is "true, guaranteed and validated by the indefectible judgment of world Christendom".

It is precisely this interpretation of public faith which rightly scares some of its critics. There is need for a much more subtle ecumenism, one which welcomes, indeed encourages, great diversity, yet finds a common point of reference in the truth which transcends all its particular expressions.

Let me stress the point again. Public faith, as I understand it, is not a nationally or internationally imposed creed. Nor is it the lowest common denominator of popular piety. It is the framework of assumptions, mostly drawn from the great historic expressions of religious faith, which makes the public articulation of personal faith both possible and fruitful.

Yours faithfully,
†JOHN EBOR:,
Bishopthorpe,
York.
December 7.

The killing of an Irishman

From Mr William McDowell

Sir, Today my personal friend Edgar Graham, Official Unionist member of the Northern Ireland Parliamentary Assembly, was shot dead in University Square. Edgar, who lectured in the law department, only a few yards from where I study, was a ferocious opponent of sectarianism and a firm supporter of law and order. He spoke out against segregation in our prisons; he was a real Unionist and a contributor to the letters columns of this paper. He was shot dead by the Provisional IRA.

We all watched Gerry Adams carry the coffin of a Provo yesterday and we all listened to a Roman Catholic minister speak of this shooting of an armed IRA man as the killing of an Irishman in his own country.

Edgar Graham was an Irishman; he has been slain by Irishmen. If Mr Graham, an opponent of capital punishment, was a legitimate target how long will it be until the inadequate security policies of the British Government result in my murder?

I have genuine tears in my eyes as I write this letter, I have just listened to Ken Maginnis, MP, on the radio crying. Not only are we sick and tired; we are all frightened. Sinn Fein must be banned. We want selective internment.

I cannot use the death of a friend who opposed hanging to call for its return, but I do call for an all-out drive to "take out" Republican terrorists before it is too late and we, the Unionist people of Northern Ireland, have to take the law into our hands to defend ourselves.

Yours faithfully,
W. McDOWELL,
Bloomfield,
Belfast,
Northern Ireland.
December 7.

∵ A letter from Mr Graham was published on September 17, 1983.

House Buyers Bill

From Mr J. E. Humphrey

Sir, Retired from legal practice for some years now and with no financial interest in the outcome of the current conveyancing altercation, I nevertheless find it too much to sit silent in the face of certain voiced misconceptions.

As for delay, of course anything which can speed up attention to the searches and inquiries which have to be made of local authorities must help; but the delays in that respect are nothing to do with solicitors and the arrival on the scene of licensed or any other operators will not help in that.

Nor will such an innovation have any effect on the other and more exasperating delays which are so frustrating to vendors and purchasers – the likelihood of there being in any chain of transactions someone who fails to obtain the mortgage advance required; or who suddenly decides not to move home after all; or who cannot or will not synchronize where that is vital; or who, having received a bad survey report, has to look round all over again; or who fails physically to vacate on the completion date; or who is some other exponent of the infinitely variable art of conveyancing upset.

As for expense, whatever the documentary simplicity of a transaction, there can still be endless hassle of the sort mentioned above, with wear and tear, time and trouble every bit as great as that, say, in a heart-rending fight over the custody of a child.

It is an occupational hazard of a solicitor to have chalked up against him, cumulatively, the delays of everybody else with whom he has to deal – in conveyancing matters not specially numerous, perhaps, but in most departments of work multifarious.

It is not easy for him to explain this, or the difficulty of much of his work, short of conducting a course for his clients on the law and its practice – an unenticing offering, one feels.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. HUMPHREY,
9 Offington Gardens,
Worthing,
West Sussex.
December 6.

Going it alone

From Lord Kaldor FBA

Sir, In your leader today (December 5) you argue that non-nuclear defence requires "the reintroduction of conscription, massive reserves based on the continuing military liability of every citizen and a considerable increase in our conventional defences against missile, air and maritime threats."

What you fail to realise is that if such defences are required to make us secure against Russian aggression they are required in any case, whether we possess nuclear weapons or not. There is no "cheap" alternative in nuclear defence – it is a bluff.

When it comes to the point of pressing the button no British Prime Minister (not even Mrs Thatcher) will be found willing to do it, for no one would acquiesce in a move that is likely to cause in retaliation the total destruction of the people of these islands. (The same goes, *mutatis mutandis*, for every other European member of Nato).

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS KALDOR,
House of Lords,
December 5.

Disruption of concert

From Mr Anthony Sinclair

Sir, Miss Bazalgette, in her letter last Saturday (December 3), expressed a preference for the campaign for Soviet Jewry to be carried out other than by disrupting concerts. Through your columns, I would like to assure her that all such methods are used. The objective of our campaign is to secure publicity for our repressed co-religionists in the Soviet Union.

On October 30, for example, a march through Hyde Park to the Soviet Embassy was supported by 7,000 marchers – Jewish and Christian. It was peaceful in the extreme. There was no violence, there was no rowdyism. But (significantly?) there were also no reports whatsoever in the quality London press.

If such expressions of deep feeling were given the publicity they warrant – contrast recent events in Warrington – other, more vocal, avenues would be unnecessary.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY SINCLAIR,
58 Lake View,
Edgware, Middlesex.
December 5.

Penalty for KAL 007

From Sir Philip Goodhart, MP for Beckenham (Conservative)

Sir, It is now three months since the Korean Airliner, KAL 007, was shot down by the Soviet air force. Since then, numerous international bodies have passed resolutions calling upon the Soviet Union to pay compensation, but it is plain that the Soviet Government has no intention of paying up.

Meanwhile, I note that in recent years there has been a substantial Soviet incursion into the British cruise ship market. This is done through CTC, an entirely Soviet-owned though British-registered company. Since 1979, the number of bed/night placess offered by CTC to British tourists has increased from 116,400 to 306,600 in 1983.

CTC's depreciation and insurance costs are entirely covered by the Soviet Union. The wages paid to the Soviet seamen on board are about one-eighth of those paid to British seamen. The cost of the marine fuels used on board the CTC ships is estimated to be a quarter of the prices paid on the world market by British cruise operators.

These Soviet cruise ships were banned from American ports by President Carter, soon after the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. The Italian Government is also limiting the number of Soviet cruises from Italian ports.

Should we not consider imposing a ticket surcharge or boarding fee, of perhaps £25 per person, on those taking Soviet or Soviet-subsidized cruises? We might encourage other countries to take similar action. The money raised by this surcharge could be paid into a Korean airline compensation fund. The money would be divided amongst the heirs and relations of the 269 people who were killed in that disaster.

We would thus limit unfair Soviet competition in one area, and help the victims of the Russian outrage in another area.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP GOODHART,
House of Commons.
December 1.

Prosecution by stores

From Mr Timothy Lawrence

Sir, I fear that your correspondent, Mr K. W. Lidstone (December 2), gives a somewhat partial view of the prosecution of theft from shops in London. As one who has long been involved in both the prosecution and defence of such cases, may I attempt to assist.

The initial arrest is effected by the store detective. The police are called to the store. They decide if the suspect should be taken to the police station and charged.

If the suspect is charged, the prosecution is forthwith placed in the hands of solicitors (unlike the vast majority of police prosecutions in London) and the actions of such solicitors are governed by the principles enunciated by the Attorney General to guide prosecutors. Despite the initial decision to charge, the prosecuting solicitor may, and for good reason will, discontinue the prosecution when all the information is to hand. But an outside observer may not appreciate that, for example, the suspect has several recent convictions for similar offences or there is clear evidence of overt dishonesty, perhaps in the form of a concealed pouch.

The decision to take the matter before a jury rather than the local magistrates is always that of the defendant. It is hard to understand how a state prosecutor, a much more expensive system, could produce fairer results.

In the recent case under discussion, the intemperate remarks of the Recorder precluded any evidence being placed before a jury and thus denied justice to both sides.

Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY LAWRENCE,
Claude Hornby & Cox, Solicitors,
35 & 36 Great Marlborough Street,
W1.
December 3.

Ethiopian colonialism

From Mrs Mary Dines

Sir, Louis FitzGibbon (November 22) rightly pointed out that, in spite of Ethiopia's appalling record on human rights, there has been a deafening silence on the subject internationally. The Soviet Union and Ethiopia's other allies are hardly likely to speak out, but there is no doubt that western governments and agencies are equally to blame for this. The accepted wisdom is that, given sufficient incentives, the military junta will turn to the West and all criticism must be stifled.

The incentives that interest the junta are food and money, theoretically for drought victims, "returnees" and a host of other unfortunates, but in practice to enable them to feed their massive army. Today, in addition to army units all over Ethiopia, over 80,000 regular troops and 120,000 militia are being prepared for a new offensive against the Eritreans. Ironically, thousands of the latter were lured into "feeding centres" earlier this year and then taken away for military training.

In August I interviewed a number of Ethiopian officers who had been recently captured by the Eritreans. They gave me precise details of how food from the EEC was distributed to soldiers in the various fronts in Eritrea. They also admitted to consuming relief supplies from Canada, Denmark (powdered milk) and other sources.

Eritrea is now in the grip of a severe famine. Many farms there and in Ethiopia have also been neglected because the menfolk have been killed or taken for the army. Crops have also been destroyed and animals slaughtered. How, then, could the military regime feed the army from their own resources?

Even if food sent for relief reaches the people for whom it is intended, which is unlikely unless it is distributed by international agencies, it can only assist the military by releasing local supplies.

The violations of human rights in Ethiopia are carried out by the junta and its local commissars. The West is as responsible for allowing this situation to continue as the Soviet Union, which has armed the junta to the teeth. It is sad that many people of good will who give to various appeals for Ethiopia may be seen as enemies by the very people they wish to help.

Yours faithfully,
MARY DINES,
48 Brownlow Road, N11.
November 26.

Oxford admissions

From Mrs G. M. Dance

Sir, We have now had time in which to consider the new arrangements for admission to Oxford University, and the more we consider them the less happy we are. Somewhat unusually, I find myself in agreement with the Master of Marlborough College in his opposition to them, but I feel it should be stressed that many of us in state schools feel, somewhat cynically, that the pressure for change has come most from certain less distinguished independent schools, where parents have been inevitably reluctant to pay fees for a seventh term in the school.

Certainly, we can see no way in which the new system will benefit state schools. On the one hand, schools like this one, where we have been able to run a seventh-term sixth, thanks to the stamina and dedication of staff, will now have to decide whether to put fourth-term pupils in for the examination, knowing that the coaching we can offer at that stage will be considerably less than in public schools, as we shall not be able to contemplate an accelerated stream, or whether to let them apply for conditional offers only, an almost impossible decision.

On the other hand, students in the majority of state schools which are not able to offer a seventh term at present will not have gained anything either; at present these students can apply at that stage, mostly in competition with each other. In future they will be in competition with students from privileged homes, in accelerated streams in independent schools.

I foresee the prospects of state school students at Oxford dropping still further and I hope Cambridge will maintain the examination option in the seventh term.

Yours faithfully,
G. MARY DANCE, Headmistress,
The Grammar School,
Harrogate,
North Yorkshire.
November 24.

Lines of beauty

From Mr Joseph Dean

Sir, May I put in a plea for the revival of traditional tree avenues along the routes of suitable motorways? The scattered planting of ill-assorted trees at irregular intervals, which seems at present to pass for treescape planning, creates a scruffy sort of landscape in places where lines of noble classical trees would in due course add beauty and dignity to the scene.

Somebody will object about falling leaves, but I suspect this is more a railway than a roadway problem. The wind and wheels on motorways seem very swiftly to sweep aside the slush where leaves might otherwise lie and in any event the trees should be planted as far back from the edge of the roadway as possible.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH DEAN,
The Hall,
West Brabourne,
Ashford, Kent.
December 5.

A matter of title

From the Chairman of the Social Science Research Council

Sir, Professor Fletcher (December 5) and your readers may like to know that on November 18 the Privy Council were pleased to approve, on her Majesty's behalf, the proposal from my Council to change its name to the Economic and Social Research Council.

The new name will take effect from January 3, 1984. Now that the change has been agreed our intention is to concentrate on getting on with the job.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS HAGUE, Chairman,
Social Science Research Council,
1 Temple Avenue, EC4.
December 6.

Airlines' safety

From Sir Archibald Hope

Sir, On December 8 it will be exactly seven years since the Air Transport Users' Committee (of which I was then a member and later chairman) issued its report on European air fares. In this we showed that high fares in Europe were to a large extent caused by overmanning and low productivity of the European airlines, mostly nationally owned.

Our conclusions were reinforced 18 months later when British Airways, in their report for 1977-78, admitted that compared with eight foreign airlines (of their choosing) BA's productivity was less than 60 per cent of those with whom it was compared.

Mr Moss Evans suggests (December 3) that the cuts in manpower, etc, which Lord King has courageously made may lead to lower safety standards. He should look again at the operations of the major US airlines as we did. Their safety record is second to none. They are all privately owned. So why should a privatised BA be any different?

Rumour has it that BA should shed another 10,000 employees to reach true efficiency. Perhaps Mr Evans has heard this story and is quite properly trying to protect his members' jobs. But that has nothing to do with safety.

Yours truly,
ARCHIBALD P. HOPE,
The Manor House,
Somerford Keynes,
Cirencester,
Gloucestershire.
December 6.

Purpose of pensions

From Mr Patrick Carroll

Sir, In the wholly commendable concern to achieve justice for the early leaver now disadvantaged by the terms of final-salary pension schemes there is a danger of losing sight of the purposes which pension schemes can serve in making it possible for employers to train employees.

Some of the success of Japanese industry is to be attributed to the loyalty of employees to their employers, and the training and education of specialists in electronics within the major companies is developed in this context. Training is often neglected in this country for the convincing, if not good, reason that an employee has not enough incentive to stay with an employer after completing his training.

Fully portable pensions will increase the already considerable difficulties that City institutions have in training employees, e.g. cashiers. Damage to the economic wellbeing of the country will result. This has been seen to happen in Singapore in recent years, where private pension arrangements have not been common and employees are free to move without pension penalties.

Some progress can be made towards portability of personal pensions by using the criteria of money purchase to establish what transfer value is fairly attributable to the contributions made by employer and employee up to the point when transfer takes place. But there remains the impossibility under a final salary and also a money purchase-type scheme of allowing for future salary increases in real terms.

If employers really wish to make it possible for employees to move freely without pension penalties within an industry it is necessary to adopt the principle of "national solidarity", as is common in France, where national schemes for particular classes of employee include all the relevant employing institutions. In this way an engineer could move from one engineering company to another as easily as a lecturer can now move from one of the universities in this country to another because all participate in the same pension scheme.

Nationwide schemes for particular industries also provide more security for employees in the event of one employer going out of business.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK CARROLL,
The City University,
Northampton Square, EC1.
November 28.

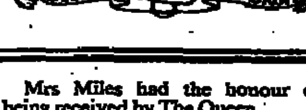
Dusty answer

From Mr R. F. Tapsell

Sir, The Outback cattlemen's car sticker quoted among your November 30 book reviews – "Eat more beef, you bastards" – is so quintessentially Australian (no disrespect to that delightful country). It reminded me of an urban version of the same flavour, to be seen on the vehicles of a refuse disposal contractor in Perth, Western Australia – "Satisfaction guaranteed, or double your rubbish back".

Yours faithfully,
R. F. TAPSELL,
29 Sidmouth Avenue,
Stafford.
December 3.

COURT CIRCULAR



COURT AND SOCIAL

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

December 8: Mr R. M. Evans was received in audience by The Queen this morning and kissed hands on his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Peking.

Mrs Evans had the honour of being received by The Queen.

His Excellency Dr Miroslav Houštecký was received in audience by Her Majesty and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to The Queen: Dr Josef Houžvička (Counsellor), Mr Václav Jarolím (Commercial Counsellor), Colonel Miroslav Merhaut (*Military and Air Attaché*), Mr Zdeněk Vaníček (First Secretary) and Mr Pavol Lašček (Second Secretary).

Madame Maria Houštecká had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Sir Antony Acland (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by The Queen was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr W. H. Fullerton (Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Mogadishu) and Mrs Fullerton had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Mr R. O. Miles was received in *audience by The Queen and kissed* hands on his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Tripoli.

Mrs Miles had the honour of being received by The Queen.

The Queen this afternoon opened the new London South Western District Office of the Post Office at Nine Elms.

Having been received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London (the Baroness Phillips) and the Chairman of the Post Office (Mr Ron Dearing), The Queen toured the sorting office, met members of the staff and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Mrs John Dugdale, Mr Robert Fellowes and Major Hugh Lindsay were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, this morning visited Benenden School, Cranbrook, Kent and was received on arrival by the Headmistress (Miss Janet Allen).

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, this evening attended a Reception at St James's Palace to launch the Charing Cross Medical Research Centre Appeal.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Chairman of the Appeal (Sir Robert Clark).

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

By command of The Queen the Baroness Trumpington (*Baroness in* Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this evening upon the departure of the Governor-General of Fiji and bade farewell to His Excellency on behalf of Her Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE

December 8: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this evening honoured the Members of the Army Board with her presence at Dinner at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

The Dowager Viscountess Hambleden and Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt, were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

December 8: The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers' livery dinner held at Mansion House.

Mrs Howard Page was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

December 8: The Duke of Kent, as President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, today attended a Council Meeting at 35, Belgrave Square, London SW1.

Sir Richard Buckley was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, today opened the Civic Centre, Ashford, Kent, and later, as Patron of The Royal British Legion Village, opened the Churchill Rehabilitation and Assessment Centre at the Village in Maidstone, Kent.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The *Queen's Flight, was attended by Mrs* Alan Henderson.

The Prince of Wales has granted to the whole of St John Ambulance in London the right to be known as the London, Prince of Wales's, District.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. E. Griffith-Jones and Miss V. A. M. Brown

The engagement is announced between David, son of the later Sir Eric Griffith-Jones and Lady Griffith-Jones, of Rogate, West Sussex, and Virginia, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. M. Brown, of Haslemere, Surrey.

Mr J. I. Bond and Miss D. P. C. Brookes

The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Mrs R. W. H. Parker, of Upper Wield, Hampshire, and the late Mr G. F. Bond, and Denise, daughter of Mrs P. Brookes, of the Isle of Arran, and the late Dr E. Brookes.

Mr D. Channing-Williams and Miss T. J. Robson

The engagement is announced between David, youngest son of Major-General and Mrs J. W. Channing-Williams, of Inkpen, and *Tania, younger daughter of Mr* and Mrs T. W. Robson, of Compton Beauchamp.

Mr J. C. Davies and Miss D. E. Rogers

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs J. C. H. Davies, of Green Apple Orchards, Toat, Pulborough, and Deborah, daughter of Mr D. G. Rogers, of Bishop's Stortford, and Mrs E. M. Rogers, of the Dower House, Aldsworth, Emsworth.

Mr Q. M. De Havilland and Miss H. V. Wiernik

The engagement is announced between Quentin Mark, elder son of Mr and Mrs Mark De Havilland, of 6 Immarna Place, Dundas, Sydney, Australia, and Hilary Vivien, third daughter of Dr and Mrs George Wiernik, of Eastleigh House, *Kirtlington, Oxford.*

Mr A. Reid and Miss C. H. McDowall

The engagement is announced between Andrew, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Alan Reid, of Monewden Hall, Monewden, Suffolk, and Clare, elder daughter of Mr Keith McDowall, of 42 Gibson Square, NW1, and Mrs Shirley McDowall, of North Lodge, East Hill Road, Oxted, Surrey.

Mr M. Dransfield and Miss C. Stephens

The engagement is announced between Martin, younger son of Mr and Mrs K. Dransfield, of Harrogate, Yorkshire, and Catherine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs M. J. Stephens, of West Berlin.

Mr N. J. Jewell and Miss B. A. M. Clifford

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, only son of Mr and Mrs Derek Jewell, of East Molesey, Surrey, and Ann-Marie, only daughter of Brigadier and Mrs R. J. Clifford, of Bridge End, Warwick.

Mr J. D. Kellock and Miss C. O. R. Hall

The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Dr and Mrs T. D. Kellock, of Edbrooke House, Watton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, and Cleo, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs G. R. Hall, of White Post Farm, Fressingfield, Suffolk.

Mr P. R. Lloyd and Miss S. F. Rawlings

The engagement is announced *between Peter, younger son of Mr* and Mrs K. A. Lloyd, of Barrow, Cheshire, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Rawlings, of Swiss Cottage, London.

Mr R. M. Worthy and Miss C. M. Taylor

The engagement is announced between Rex, son of the late Mr J. G. Worthy and of Mrs W. N. Worthy, of London, W3, and Clare, daughter of Mr S. E. Taylor, of London, NW1, and of Mrs G. Denny, of Elmsted, Kent.

Marriages

Mr W-T. R. Curt and Miss S. F. Chavasse

The marriage took place quietly in London on Saturday December 3 Between Mr Russell Curt and Miss Susanna Chavasse.

Mr A. D. A. Lawson and Mrs B. Stafford

The marriage took place quietly in London yesterday of Mr Derek Lawson, of Passenham Manor, Stony Stratford, Buckinghamshire, avd Mrs Elizabeth Sarah (Betty) Stafford.

Birthdays today

Sir John Burgh, 58; Miss Judi Dench, 49; Mr Kirk Douglas, 67, Mr Douglas Fairbanks, 74; Miss Hermione Gingold, 86; Mr Benny Green, 56; Mr Robert Hawke, 54; Mr George Helsby, 42; Mr I. J. McIntyre, 52; Sir Stewart MacTier, 78; *Mr Justice Mann, 53; Sir* Godfrey Nicholson, 82; Miss Isobel Poole, 42; Mr Peter Rees, QC, MP; Mme Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, 68; Sir Peter Smithers, 70; Sir Maurice Yonge, 84.

Memorial services

Mr E. Price Holmes

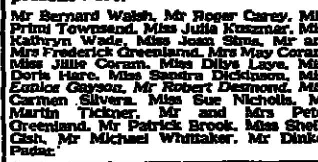
The Prime Minister was represented by Mr Timothy Raison, MP, and the Speaker by Mr Ernest Armstrong, MP, at a memorial service for Mr Eric Price Holmes held at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday. Mr Edward Heath, MP, was represented by Mr Mark Robinson, *MP*. The Social Democratic Party was represented by Lord Kennet. The Dean of Westminster, Chairman of the United Nations Association Religious Advisory Committee, officiated, assisted by Canon Trevor Beeson, the Rev J. Cameron Walker and the *Rev* R. E. Taylor. Mr Malcolm Harper, Director of the United Nations *Association, read from* Dag Hammarskjold's *Markings*. Mr Hugh Walker and Professor John Ferguson, Chairman of the United Nations Association Executive Committee, gave addresses. Among others present were:



Mr John Beale, Mr David J. Holmes Clifford (Montague Holmes Properties) and Mrs Holmes Clifford; representatives of the Diplomatic Corps, Baroness Elliot of Harwood, Baroness Ewart-Biggs, Mr Jeremy Thorpe (Chairman, UNA Political *Committee*), Sir *Leslie Kirkley*, Dr *Eric* Jensen (Director, UN Office for the United Kingdom and Ireland), Mr P. J. Roberts (representing the Diplomatic Service), Miss Catherine Brown (representing the United Nations Commissioner for refugees), Mr R. Woolgar (deputy chairman, Town and Country Building Society), Mrs Terence Mallinson, Mr N. Popovic, Mr Nigel Nicolson, Deaconess Angela Berners-Wilson, Major Henry Haydon, Mr E. K. S. *Callaghan, Mrs H. Edwards* (Society for International Development), Mrs Myrtle Davies (Deputy director, UNA), Mr W. Beaumont, Mr Frank Williams (National Peace Council), Miss Margaret Quass (director, Council for Education of World Citizenship), Mr Peter Pettit, The Rev F. M. and Mrs Hodgess-Roper, the Rev Geoffrey Roper, Mr and Mrs John Roper, the Rev R. E. Roper and representatives from Paddington Chapel (United Reformed Church).

Mr P. Arne

A service of thanksgiving for the life of *Mr Peter Arne was held* at St Paul's, Covent Garden, yesterday. The Rev John Arrowsmith officiated, assisted by Mr James Roose-Evans, who led the prayers. Miss Moira Redmond read from *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran. Mr Dinsdale Landen and Miss Sylvia Syms gave addresses. Among those present were:



Mr Bernard Walsh, Mr Roger Carey, Miss Primi Townsend, Miss Julia Kuszmar, Miss Kathryn Wade, Miss Joan Sims, Mr and Mrs Frederick Greenland, Mrs May Coram, Miss Jillie Coram, Miss Dilys Laye, Miss Doris Hare, Miss Sandra Dickinson, Miss *Eunice Gayson, Mr Robert Desmond*, Miss Carmen Silvera, Miss Sue Nicholls, Mr Martin Tickner, Mr and Mrs Peter Greenland, Mr Patrick Brook, Miss Sheila Gish, Mr Michael Whittaker, Mr Dinker Padar.

Dulwich College Preparatory School

Dulwich College Preparatory School will celebrate its centenary in 1985. *The school is arranging a pro*gramme of events to which it is hoped to invite old boys and former parents, who should write to Centenary Secretary, 42 Alleyn Park, London, SE21 7AA, if they would like to receive further *information.*

Lecture

Lord Romsey, Chairman of the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Trust, presided at the Tenth memorial lecture given by Mr T. N. Kaul at the Royal Commonwealth Society yesterday.

Calling the tune: A helping hand for David Whitelock, aged 11, the new relief organist at the church of the Holy Cross, Yelling, St Neots, Cambridgeshire, from the Rector, the Rev *Mark Bishop. David also plays the recorder, trombone* and piano (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Luncheons

Chiefs of Staff

The Chief of the Defence Staff and the Chiefs of Staff were hosts at a luncheon at Admiralty House *yesterday given in honour of* General Leopold Chalupa, West German Army, Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces Central Europe.

Lord Stokes

Lord Stokes, President of the Institute of Road Transport Engineers, entertained honorary fellows and honorary officers of the institute at their annual luncheon *held at the* House of Lords, yesterday. The principal guest was Sir James Duncan and others present included Lord Chesham, Sir William Swallow and Sir Reginald Wilson.

Variety Club of Great Britain

The Variety Club of Great Britain gave a luncheon at the Hilton hotel yesterday in honour of Mr Cliff Richard to mark his twenty-fifth year as an entertainer. The speakers included Mr Jarvis Astaire, Chief Barker, *Mr Ken East*, Mr Tim Rice, Mr Jimmy Tarbuck and Mike Yarwood. Among those present were:

Sir Joseph Lockwood, Sir Kenneth Newman, Mr Hank Marvin, Mr Bruce Welch, Mr Brian Bennett, Miss Sue Barker, Mr Mike Read, Mr Bill Cotton, Mr David Jacobs, Mr Monty Modlyn, Miss Liz Fraser, Miss Anita Harris, Mr Rodney Bewes, Mr Simon Bates, Mr Peter Powell, Mr Neil Durden-Smith and Miss Judith Chalmers, Miss Una Stubbs, Mr Graham Stark, Miss Julia MacKenzie, Mr Lennie Bennett, Mr Stirling Moss, Miss Angela Rippon, Mr Brain Cant *and Mr Jonathan Cohen.*

Society of Company and Commercial Accountants

Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, MP, was the guest speaker at a luncheon given by Mr F. J. Bergin, President of the Society of Company and Commercial Accountants, at Dyers' Hall yesterday. Among those present were:

Mr C J Coulson-Thomas, Mr J Mather, Mr D E Evans, Mr J K Poole (members of council); Mr B Banks (secretary-general), Mrs J G Slade (education secretary); Mr Anwyl-Davies, Mr K Brading, Mr B Brook-Partridge, Mr F T Brown, Mr T C Clowry, Mr M Cohen, Mr D Dewar, Mr D A G Elyan, the Ambassador of Colombia, Mr J F Liddle, Viscount Mersey, Mr C Passmore, Mr P Smith, Mr M Stevens and Mr P Waine.

Speakers were Dame Josephine Barnes, president of the appeal, Sir Robert Clark, chairman, Mr J. E. H. Pendower and Professor R. M. Greenhalgh. Others present included:

Sir William and Lady Shapland, Sir Alistair and Lady Frame, Sir Alan and Lady Campbell, Lady Clark, Professor and Mrs T W Glenister, Professor R N Maini, Dr Geraldine Room, Mrs M A Glen Haig, Mrs B A Groves, Mr D B Money-Coutts, Mr and Mrs Len Heath and Miss Marion Allford.

German Chamber of Industry and Commerce

A reception was held at the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in St James's yesterday evening to bid farewell to the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr Jürgen Ruhfus, who is returning to Bonn. The Lord *Mayor of Westminster* was among those present.

Receptions

Wingate Foundation

The presentation of the 1983 Harold H. Wingate Literary Prize was held at 74 St James's Street, London, *yesterday. The Minister for the Arts*, the Earl of Gowrie, was present. Among the guests were:

The Israel Ambassador and Mrs Avner, Mr and Mrs Jarvis Astaire, Mr Louis Baum, Mr Clive Bingley, Baroness Birk and Mr Ellis Birk, Mr Melvyn Bragg, Dr Madaleine Duke, Lord Elwyn-Jones, CH, Lady Falkender, Mr Martyn Goff, Professor and Mrs Elie Kedourie, Mr and Mrs Ab Kramer, Mrs Anne Leventhal, Mr and Mrs Tom Maschler, Mr Eric Moonman, Mr and Mrs Norman Morris, the Hon Terence Prittie, Mr Chaim Raphael, Mr Luke Rittner, Lady Sternberg, Mr and Mrs Henry Strage, Lord Weidenfeld, Lord and Lady Wilson of Rievaulx, Mr Anthony Wingate, Mrs Minnie Wingate and Mr and Mrs Roger Wingate.

Charing Cross Medical Research Centre Appeal

Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, was the guest speaker at a reception *held at St James's Palace last night* to launch the Charing Cross Medical Research Centre Appeal. The other

Dinners

HM Government

Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a dinner at Admirlty House yesterday given in honour of the Deputy Prime Minister, Attorney-General and Minister of Justice of Mauritius.

Fan Makers' Company

The Duchess of Gloucester, Honorary Freeman of the Fan Makers' Company, was the guest at the annual livery dinner held at Mansion House last night. The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were also entertained at dinner by the Master and Mrs Collins, the Free Warden and Miss Howes, the Foreign Warden and Mrs Shelton and the Court of Assistants.

Royal Aeronautical Society

The annual presentation of the Royal Aeronautical Society's awards was held at 4 Hamilton Place, W1, yesterday. The Wilbur and Orville Wright memorial lecture was delivered afterwards by Mr John Stamper. Professor M G Farley, president of the society, was host at *a dinner held later. Among those* present were:



Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo, Sir Austin Pearce, Air Marshal Sir Charles Pringle, Sir Roy Sisson, Sir Robert Telford, Sir Philip Foreman, Dr G S Hislop, Mr C F Hughesdon, Mr L C Hunting, Professor G Madelung, Professor R O C Norman, Dr E W E Rogers, Professor J L Stollery, Mr R J Yates, M M R Béteille, Air Commodore F R Banks, Captain E M Brown, Professor L F Crabtree, Mr Handel Davies and Mr P A Hearne.

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

Mr Clifford Dann, President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, was host at a dinner held at 12 Great George Street, Westminster, last night. The guests included Sir George Young, MP, Sir Leslie Kirkley, Sir Hugh Cubitt, Mr David Hobman, Mr Antony Fletcher and others concerned with *housing for the elderly.*

English-Speaking Union

Viscount Tonypandy was the guest of honour at a dinner given at Dartmouth House last night by the English-Speaking Union. Sir *Donald Tebbit, Chairman of the* ESU of the Commonwealth, presided.

Rose expert honoured

By Alan Toogood, Horticulture Correspondent

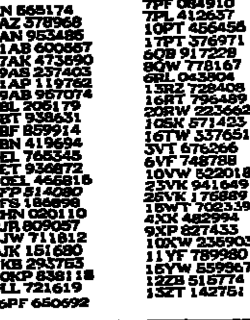
The Royal National Rose Society has presented its highest award, the Dean Hole Medal, to Mr L G Turner, its retiring secretary, for his services to the society. He is succeeded by Lieutenant-Colonel Kenneth Grapes.

Mr J Roscoe and Dr J T Watts, distinguished rosarians, and Mr R C Evers, the society's auditor for 43 years, received silver medals for *services to the society at its annual* meeting held on Tuesday.

The Amateur Championship Trophy was presented to Mr B S Pearce, who scored most successfully at the three rose shows this year. The John Brooks Trophy went to Mr M Thompson, the most successful amateur grower of not more than 500 roses. R Harkness and Co, of Hitchin, received the Autumn Roses Challenge Cup.

£5,000 Bond winners

The £5,000 Premium Bond prize-*winners for Dec are:-*



AN 665174
7AZ 378968
8AN 953486
11AB 600667
17AK 473690
19AS 237403
21AP 119762
29AB 957074
28L 206179
5BT 938631
7BF 859914
7BN 419694
6EL 765345
7ET 936872
10EL 465816
3FP 514080
9FS 186698
2HN 020110
2JR 809057
4JW 711812
6JK 151680
1KB 293753
10KP 838118
9LL 721619
6PF 650692
7PF 084910
7PL 412637
10PT 456456
17PT 376971
6QB 917228
8QW 778167
6RL 043804
13RZ 728408
16RT 796489
20RW 223662
10SK 571423
16TW 337651
3VT 676266
6VF 748788
10VW 522018
23VK 941649
25VK 176889
18WT 702339
4XK 482994
9XP 827433
10XW 236903
11YF 789980
15YW 559967
12ZB 515774
13ZT 142751

Latest wills

Miss Winifred Mary Parker, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £308,093 net. After bequests totalling £2,600 she left the residue to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Goodenough, Mr Samuel Kenneth Henry, of Lechlade, senior partner *of Knight Frank & Rutley since* 1978 .... £200,724

Gough, Mrs Frances Lizzie, of Gerrards Cross £360,703

Ingham, Mr Harry Haworth, of Lytham St Anne's £360,556

OBITUARY

THE RT HON SIR KEITH HOLYOAKE

Former Prime Minister of New Zealand

The Rt Hon Sir Keith Holyoake, KG, GCMG, CH, who has died at the age of 79, was for several years the dominant figure in New Zealand politics. He was Prime Minister from 1960 to 1972, after an earlier period of a few months in 1957, and Governor-General from 1977 to 1980.

Ironically, his influence and *achievements* in the political domain only belatedly won wide recognition among his countrymen. His record of service marked him as a great New Zealander. Yet throughout his years at the head of affairs he tended to be underestimated at home both as a political strategist and as the New Zealand representative on the world stage.

His years as Prime Minister were stable and prosperous ones and in the main Holyoake deliberately chose unadventurous policies, calculated to appeal to the New Zealand public's belief that that government is best which stands for security in all things. Yet he himself was far from having a pedestrian outlook, and this was demonstrated by his firm response to the challenges of the time.

On the economic front, he faced a sharp decline in the market for New Zealand's traditional farm exports, and the prospect that this trend would be further-exacerbated by British entry into the European Community. Holyoake's government was successful in persuading both Britain and the Six, as they then were, of the need for special terms for New Zealand produce; and at the same time it prepared for the restructuring of the country's *industrial base.*

In the strategic area, there was Britain's decision to withdraw from its military involvement in South-east Asia, much regretted in both Australia and *New Zealand*. But both countries had been aware for some time of the new balance of power in the region, and this was reflected in the government's decision to send New Zealand troops to support the Americans in Vietnam, and to keep them there in spite of *criticism at home.*

Keith Jacka Holyoake was born on February 11, 1904, the



third child in a family of seven. It was claimed on occasion that his story contained all the elements of "from log cabin to White House", and there was some truth in that. He came from a long-established family of English origin, but the family farm was small, and his childhood was hard.

He reached the sixth standard at the age of 12, but was then taken away from school to work *on the farm*, and early maturity was forced on him. He found time, however, to take part in sports activities, particularly tennis and rugby, with some success, and became well known in the district. He was nominated for the Motueka seat in 1931, and elected on his second attempt the following year.

Over the succeeding years Holyoake was in and out of Parliament. When the Natioanl Party defeated the long-lived Fraser government in 1949 he became Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture and achieved the remarkable feat of *holding the farming portfolio*, regarding as a political deathtrap, for over seven years, and of retaining the confidence of the farmers.

In 1950, during the railway strike, he was acting Prime Minister, and gave a foretaste of what was later recognized as one of his greatest assets, his gift for negotiation and conciliation.

Holyoake became Prime Minister in September, 1957, but it was a pre-electoral period and he did not have time to *establish himself*. Some National Party supporters blamed him unduly for the party's failure at the polls in the following December, but he bounced back in the 1960 election and, after an initial period of uncertainty, he and his new government gained a considerable degree of respect.

Holyoake was an affable leader, with presence, good looks and a pleasant personality. He was also an adept politician, with the instincts of a tough in-fighter, and he was at his best in the debating chamber of the House of Representatives. He had a tendency to "talk down" to his listeners, which irritated many.

He was a strong believer in the Commonwealth, though in the early years at least was put out by the militancy displayed by the African members over Rhodesia. As the years went by, however, he felt that the atmosphere became more tolerant.

When Britain made its approach to the EEC, Holyoake took the view that it was free to *undertake whatever association* it wished, but that it had a moral obligation to safeguard Commonwealth, and specifically New Zealand interests. He pressed this claim to special consideration in personal visits to London and the capitals of the Six, and this strenuous approach ultimately achieved considerable success.

At the same time, however, Holyoake did what he could to diversify New Zealand's markets, and quickened the pace of industrialization in an attempt to lessen dependence on farm exports. He also worked hard at strengthening ties with Australia and the nations of South-east Asia, many of which he visited *in his capacity of Minister of* External Affairs.

He stepped down in favour of his deputy, Sir John Marshall, *in 1972. In 1977* he became Governor-General and his term in that office, which ended with his retirement from public life in 1980, was low-key. This was due in some degree to ill-health, *but could also be explained by* his appreciation of the need to show detachment from party politics.

He is survived by his wife, Dame Norma Holyoake, DCMG, *formerly Norma* Ingram, and by two sons and three daughters.

LIEUT-COL KENNETH GARSIDE

Lieutenant-Colonel Kenneth Garside, Goldsmiths' Librarian and Director of Central Library Services in the *University* of London from 1974 to 1978, died on December 1. He was 70.

Garside who graduated from Leeds in modern languages, served in the Army Intelligence *Corps from 1941 to 1946*, taking part in the liberation of France and the Low Countries *and the occupation of Germany*, as an officer on the General Staff.

After the war he was Hon Secretary to the Council of Military Education Committees *of the Universities of the* United Kingdom for 12 years, and commanded the University *of London Officers' Training* Corps for five years.

During the War, he was *concerned with captured* enemy documents, one aspect of this work being the establishment of a *reference library primarily* intended for the use of branches of the Army staff which were to be *responsible for military* government in Germany after the cessation of hostilities, but subsequently *extended in* scope to cater for the additional needs of the Control Commission.

His position in Germany at the end of the War enabled him to help the government-sponsored Enemy Publications Committee to establish a field organization for procuring wartime German learned and scientific books and periodicals required to fill the inevitable gaps in libraries in the United Kingdom.

As Deputy Librarian of University College, London, from 1945 to 1958 he was associated with the restoration of the library, and initiated a new scheme of classification, later known as the Garside classification, which aimed to *provide* an arrangement of books more in keeping with academic thought than any previous hitherto-published scheme.

From 1958 to 1974 he was Librarian of King's College, London. Throughout that period he sought to improve the collections; the disposition of the Library, and to increase its space. He saw the realization of his planning for a new Library when the first stage was opened in 1971.

He was secretary of the Men's Senior Common Room for nine years and then chairman of the combined Common Rooms, being made a Fellow of King's in 1981.

His deep interest in military *documentation* was the *force* behind the setting-up, in co-operation with Professor Michael Howard, of the Centre for Military Archives in 1964. In particular he played a major part in the *acquisition for the* Centre of the papers and library of Sir Basil Liddell Hart.

After leaving King's in 1974 he remained a Trustee of the Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives and subsequently became Hon Keeper of the Military Archives. It was due largely to his efforts that the Centre's collections of papers increased so substantially.

When, in 1974, Garside became Goldsmiths' Librarian and Director of Central Library Services in the University of London, he emphasized that the course to be steered was that charted in the Humphreys Report on Library Resources towards full co-ordination and co-operation among the libraries of the University and the University received from him clear and well-founded guidance whose effect on makers of policy, will be *enduring.*

He leaves a widow, Anne, and a son.

DR RUTH YOUNG

Dr Ruth Young, CBE, who died on December 2 at the age of 99, was one of the pioneers of medical work in India, particularly among women and children.

After graduating MB ChB at St Andrews University in 1909, she went to the Women's College, Ludhiana, Punjab for 6 years and then was on the staff of the Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi; at the end of her career in India she was Principal. Between these two periods she worked in the Women's Medical Service of India and was also Director of the Indian Red Cross Maternity and Child Welfare Bureau.

It is hard for people today to visualize India in 1910. These were the days of epidemics – cholera, plague, malaria, dysentery; infant mortality was between 20 and 40 per cent; childbirth was regarded as an unclean process. Women were regarded as inferior and in many cases confined to the house, subject to severe anaemias and bone diseases like osteomalacia which made natural birth impossible.

Dr Young and a few colleagues changed all that. She identified the problems and set about solving them in spite of customs, superstition and prejudice, by the training of midwives and health visitors and through classes in maternity and child welfare.

No one person did more than Ruth Young for the transformation of Indian womanhood; she was a great medical stateswoman.

In 1917 she married C. B. Young, lecturer in English at St Stephen's College Delhi, a Shakespearian scholar who later assisted Professor John Dover Wilson in Edinburgh with the edition of Shakespeare's works for the Cambridge University Press.

Science report

From electrodes to alternative fuels

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

A *research team at Simon Fraser University in British* Columbia is marrying the disciplines of chemistry and semiconductor physics to improve the design of electrodes which will be a crucial ingredient in processes manufacturing alternatives to fossil fuels.

The team led by physicist *Dr Roy Morrison*, director of the university's Energy Research Institute, is funded by a $177,000 contract from the US government. The object of the research, which is expected to take two years, is to improve the efficiency of electrocatalytic reduction. The processes harnessing such *techniques are able to produce* fuels like methanol and flammable liquid alcohol.

Silicon is the most *famous* of the family of semiconductors. Other examples are zinc oxide, gallium oxide and titanium dioxide. Semiconductor materials' electrical conductivity vary according to the *operating temperature*. They are extremely conductive at high temperatures

Scientists have for some time known that semiconductors are valuable in electrosynthesis and can be stimulated by electrical or solar energy to cause chemical reactions in certain *materials*. For example, to produce methanol, carbon dioxide is slowly passed into water containing an abundance of protons. A semiconductor electrode is used to deliver highly active electrons into the solution. The result is that hydrogen atoms form and attach themselves to *the carbon dioxide molecules*. Oxygen atoms are extracted from them and methanol produced.

***The research is expected to* succeed in using semiconductors to produce the alternative fuels in *economic proportions*. Attempts to produce the fuels in large proportions have frustrated scientists since the solution tends to yield less useful materials instead of the desired fuels when too high an electric current is used.**

According to the Simon Fraser researchers the studies "show clearly *that* for many systems the reaction is possible. It is necessary, therefore, to examine the reaction in more detail and to develop an improved electrode to increase the efficiency of the reaction in its competition with other reactions, such as surface recombination and hydrogen *evolution, and to increase the* selectivity of the reduction to methanol and methane."



THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Regan flies in with cold comfort for Europe

The irrepressible Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, flew into London yesterday on his way to Brussels, armed with a soothing mixture of American good intentions designed to calm passions inflamed by the sky-high dollar and massive US budget deficits.

Just as Mr Regan was telling us about Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, was blasting American economic policy in the House of Commons.

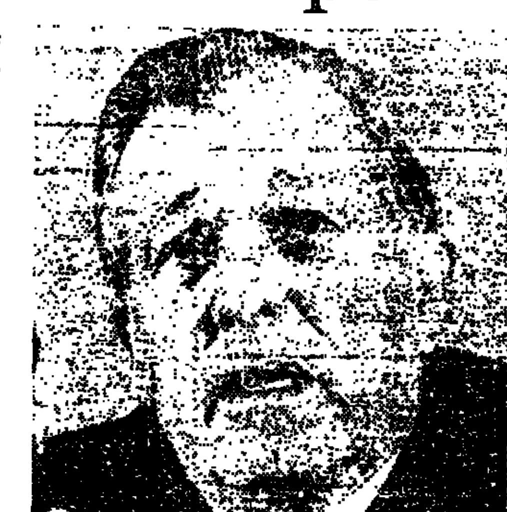
Mr Peter Tapsall, a stockbroker, MP, with Keynesian inclinations, provoked Mrs Thatcher into a blistering denounciation of US deficits after suggesting she might like to endorse the reflationary policies which appeared to have been highly successful in the US. "I would rather be in our positin, which is sustainable, than theirs, which I believe will cause great trouble in 12 months," she declared.

Meanwhile, the pound steadied on foreign exchange markets after a flurry of selling on Tuesday and yesterday morning ending the day 5 points down at a new closing low of £1.4415. Its effective index lost 0.4 to 82.5, reflecting earlier losses against European currencies.

Mr Regan, who called on the Prime Minister last night, may have been glad to slip next door to enjoy the hospitality of Mr Nigel Lawson. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, though not a man renowned for pulling his punches, is unlikely to have gone in for the kind of tongue-lashing which Mrs Thatcher earlier indulged in.

Mr Regan said yesterday that it was often forgotten that state and local governments in the US were running big surpluses – about $65 billion a year – which offset the impact of the $200 billion federal deficit on capital markets.

This is true enough. But figures for central and local government deficits calculated by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development still show the US running the biggest budget gap of the five largest industrial economies.


Regan: little hope of cutting budget deficits

Mr Regan held out little hope of cutting budget deficits next year, with the election campaign well underway. The US, he said, was "a nation of selfish interests". But he accepted that something would have to be done for future years, laying the emphasis squarely on the need to cut federal spending and especially social security entitlement programmes.

While undoubtedly realistic, this is cold comfort for Europe. Even if President Reagan runs again and wins, he may not have Congress on his side.

Mr Regan topped his cocktail with a dash of hemlock. The federal government, he said, had no intention of laying down the law on the vexed issue of unitary taxation unless the special commission to examine the matter, now expected to report in late February, failed to come up with an agreeable solution.

This is not what the European and Japanese governments, who believe the commission – heavily weighted towards state interests – is simply an excuse to put off decisions until the elections are over, want to hear. No doubt EEC ministers will say so forcibly to Mr Regan today.

Going for brokers Greenwell

W Greenwell is expected today to become the fifth leading British stockbroker to announce that outside interests have bought a large stake in its business.

Senior partners Mr Richard Lawson and Mr Gordon Pepper declined to say anything last night but lesser member of the firm was told enough to say: "I've been told there is no statement tonight. There may be something in the morning."

A company with a strong attachment to Greenwell is Mercantile House, which the energetic and visionary Mr John Barkshire has developed from humble money broking into a big broking and fund management group with a powerful presence in London and New York.

It is an obvious candidate for three reasons: Mr Philip Greenwell, the former senior partner who guided the family firm to a place in stockbroking's top six is on the board; the importance of dealing capacity in Mr Barkshire's planning for Mercantile Houses future as an integrated financial services group; and the parallel thinking already evinced by Exco, which has much in common with Mercantile House. Exco sought to buy an interest in brokers Wood Mackenzie, which, like Geenwell, has come down the field to the front rank in recent years. These two failed, in the end, to agree terms.

For almost 10 years Greenwell's reputation, which in the gilt-edged market is no bettered, has owed much to the monetary forecasting of the sharp-witted and formidably intellectual Mr Pepper. His *Monetary Bulletin* was, for a long period, required reading because of the influence it had in the market

The 36-member firm is noted for its general research; *in the latest survey of* research capability it is ranked sixth.

Greenwell has been seen as a likely candidate for ambitious outsiders for some time. Speculation increased when a senior analyst, Mr Keith Sykes departed recently for a rival firm, Scrimgeour, Kemp-Gee.

A Greenwell link would follow investments in Hoare Govett (Security Pacific), Kitkat, Aitken (RIT and Northern), jobbers Akroyd & Smithers (Mercury Securities) and Vickers da Costa (Citicorp).

Eagle's VG share offer flops as Allianz talks go on

By Jeremy Warner

Representatives of Allianz Versicherungs, the West German insurance company, yesterday met with Eagle Star directors in an attempt to find a basis for an agreed takeover bid.

Allianz has already promised to top a £914m offer for Eagle Star, Britain's sixth largest insurer, made by BAT Industries but has so far been repeatedly spurned by the Eagle Star board which has made clear its preference for BAT.

The Eagle Star board suffered an embarrassment last night when it was disclosed that the offer for sale by tender of shares in the group's high-technology offshoot, V G Instruments, had been a resounding flop.

Of the 12.5 million shares on offer only about half were applied for. At the minimum tender price of 130p a share, VG, is valued at £65m. It is the third tender offer to be undersubscribed within two weeks.

On the takeover front, Sir Denis Mountain, the Eagle Star chairman, is said to be against Allianz at any price but he said that he would be duty bound to recommend the highest offer to his shareholders.

Yesterday's meetings took place at Eagle Star's London headquarters. Allianz was represented by its overseas as ago on whether to continue the takeover battle or bow out and take substantial profits on its existing 30 per cent stake in Eagle Star were dismissed by Allianz.

The price of Eagle Star shares in the stock market rose to 714p at one stage yesterday but closed 2p up on the day at 709p. This compares with BAT's last offer of 660) a share and the promise ing, normally regarded as a formality in British mergers, and one, who said he was in favour of the bid


Sir Denis: talks will not be acrimonious

from Allianz, voted against the resolution.

Sir Denis said afterwards that he did not think that the talks with the West German company would be acrimonious in any way.

Reports that the Allianz supervisory board was split at a meeting in Munich two weeks ago on whether to continue the takeover battle or bow out and take substantial profits on its existing 30 per cent stake in Eagle Star were dismissed by Allianz.

The price of Eagle Star shares in the stock market rose to 714p at one stage yesterday but closed 2p up on the day at 709p. This compares with BAT's last offer of 660) a share and the promise by Allianz to improve on it.

The market continues to believe that the bidding will end eventually at 725p a share, valuing Eagle at about £1 billion.

Saudis pressed on output

From David Young, Geneva

Pressure on Saudia Arabia to accept a firm production quota and a continued refusal by Iran to drop its demands for a higher oil price are main obstacles to agreement at the full ministerial meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Geneva.

The ministers still hope to reach agreement on prices and production by today. The differences which have emerged during this week's meeting were described yesterday by Dr Mana Saeed al-Otaiba, oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, as "subtle".

There have been growing demands from members that if the production level of 17.5 million barrels agreed in London last March is to be renewed, Saudia Arabia's role must be clarified.

At present it is the only one of the 13 member countries without a fixed quota, acting as a "swing producer" to meet market demand.

Many Opec members believe that the country has been using this to increase its production, but Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, said that if the country had taken Opec above its production limit it had done so by only 35,000 barrels.

Shaikh Yamani repeated that Saudi Arabia would keep its prices no higher than the present marker price of $29 until the end of 1985.

The country was confident that the upturn in world demand illustrated by America's consumption increase of 800,000 barrels a dav would accelerate.

The Indonesian energy minister, Dr Subroto, said that Opec must consider strengthening its monitoring committee so that production quotas, "agreed on by all members," could be policed.

The Iranian delegation has also called for closer monitoring of any production quotas agreed in Geneva, but is still insisting that it should be allowed to increase its market share and is sticking to the instructions given to it before leaving Tehran that it sould fight to have the official Opec marker prices raised to the pre-London level of $34.

Delegates have given little backing to Iran's demands on prices, but most support its call for Saudi Arabia to clarify its position on output and to accept a strict quota.

Saatchi doubles profits

By Jonathan Clare

Saatchi & Saatchi
Year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £11.2m (£5.5m)
Stated earnings 25p (17.86p adj)
Turnover £603m (£258m)
Net total dividend 8.4p (5.8p adj)
Share price 550p, up 10p
Yield 2.2%

Saatchi & Saatchi, the eighth largest advertising agency in the world and the only British multinational agency, more than doubled its profits last year from £5.5m to £11.2m.

The results benefited directly from the first contribution from British Airways' £25m campaign to attract customers, which has been running since March.

Saatchi said that its role as the Conservative Party's agency in election year did little to improve profits but had brought plenty of free publicity.

Most of the profits growth has come from acquisition, particularly the American Compton Agencies, acquired in July, 1982, which made their first full-year contribution.

A second acquisition, McCaffrey and McCall made a three-month contribution.

Saatchi's proposed quote on the New York stock market is "imminent". The agency plans further expansion in the US, where it already ranks tenth, but is confined to New York.

Margins at Compton have been increased since the acquisition from 1 per cent to 1.3 per cent. The aim is to raise them to the 2 per cent achieved by the other big US agencies within the next two to three years. British margins are about 3 per cent.

Saatchi's long-term aim is to expand into the world's top 10 advertising markets; it is represented in only five at present. Immediate targets include Canada and Japan.

Presentation in the US, which accounts for 50 per cent of worldwide advertising spending, is likely to be in the West Coast and Chicago areas.

Record run continues

The equity market showed few signs of running out of steam yesterday as the FT Index kept up its record-breaking performance, closing 6.6 higher at 760.2.

Another set of bumper figures from some of Britain's bigger companies, including BOC, Bass and Great Universal Stores, continued to encourage investors and the lack of sellers again sent share prices soaring.

On foreign exchanges, the pound recovered from its initial weakness, which saw it sink to record low of $1.4355, to close at $1.4415, down 5 points.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 760.2 up 6.6
FT Gilts: 83.29 down 0.04
FT All Share: 468.03 up 4.44
Bargains: 23,109
Datastream USM Leaders Index:95.92 unchanged
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1271.24 down 2.54
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,461.03 up 56.04
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 873.86 down 0.50
Amsterdam:156.4 up 0.4
Sydney: AO Index 737.0 up 2.0
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1023.5 up 0.8
Brussels: General Index 130.49 up 0.62
Paris: CAC Index 151.3 up 0.9
Zurich: SKA General Index306.40 up 0.50

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4415 down 5pts
Index 82.5 up 0.4
DM 3.9450 up 0.0025
FrF 11.9725 up 0.0175
Yen 337.75 unchanged
Dollar
Index 129.7 up 0.1
DM 2.7325 unchanged
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4420
Dollar DM 2.7335
INTERNATIONAL
ECU£0.574430
SDR£0.722413

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 9
3 month interbank 9 7/16-9 5/16
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9 15/16-10 1/16
3 month DM 6⅜-6¼
3 month Fr F13-12¾
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9½
Treasury long bond 100 13/16-100⅝
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV. Average reference rate for interest period November 2 to *December 6, 1983 Inclusive:* 9.350 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $402 pm $401
close $401.75-402.50 (£278.75-279.25)
New York (latest): $401
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$414-415.50 (£287.50-288.25)
Sovereigns* (new):
$94-95 (£65.25-66)
*Excludes VAT

Brooke Bond fights off critics

By Wayne Lintott

The annual meeting of Brooke Bond Group yesterday was once again heavily attended – as much for the afternoon tea that follows as for shareholders seeking fiscal information.

The shareholders, for the sixth successive year, overwhelmingly voted down a moderately worded motion asking Brooke Bond to disclose information on the wages, health and housing conditions of its African and Indian tea plantation workers.

The response of shareholders was impassioned, both for and against the motion, but this year the company issued a five-page document explaining its position under the heading "Brooke Bond and The Third World".

The report shows the complexity of disclosing specific local information which, when compared with British conditions, can often show the company in a poor light.

It is for this reason that the chairman, Sir John Cuckney, declines invitations to media debates on the subject, despite many calls for the company to be represented.

Sir John argues that many of the plantations are jointly owned and conditions are often determined by the national governments.

Gone are the days when rowdy hippies harangued the directors. On this occasion short-haired, business-suited young people eloquently argued their case.

They said Brooke Bond was a powerful multi-national that could effectively influence the abysmal conditions in which African and Indian labour works.

Sir John did get time – albeit briefly – to tell shareholders that the trading companies, whose products include PG Tips, Fray Bentos and Oxo, are showing an improved financial performance in the current year.

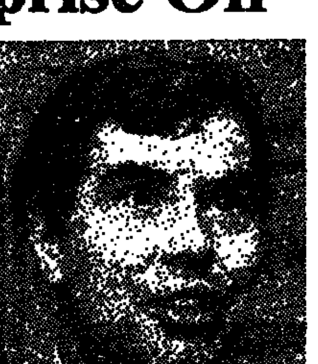
Hearne likely chief for Enterprise Oil

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The Government has found the man it wants to run Enterprise Oil, the new North Sea exploration and production company which is scheduled to be floated on the stock market next summer as part of the continuing privatization programme.

Mr Graham Hearne, the managing director of Carless Capel Leonard, is expected to be named shortly as Enterprise Oil's chief executive. The appointment follows an extensive search among management in Britain's independent oil companies for the right person to launch the new company as a private sector concern.

Enterprise is the company that Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, has set up to take over the substantial North Sea oil assets formerly owned by the state-owned British Gas Corporation. Barring another serious fall in oil prices, the flotation is expected in June or July.



Hearne: chosen to lead

Provisional estimates are that it could raise £400m for the Treasury.

The Government has been keen to find a relatively young and dynamic British executive with oil industry experience to run Enterprise on a day-to-day basis. A former finance director of Courtaulds, Mr Hearne joined Carless Capel Leonard six months ago after two years as chief executive of Tricentrol.

Berni Inn for £60m facelift

By Vivien Goldsmith

Berni Inns, which brought steak and chips to the masses in the 1960s with its chain of restaurants, is to have a change of image, in an attempt to attract young customers.

Grand Metropolitan is planning to spend £60m on the restaurants, which suffered a 30 per cent decline in sales since 1979.

The red-plush pub atmosphere will be replaced by a fresh green decor.

But more radically, many of the Berni Inn sites will also include one of three new offshoots: The Burgundy Room for a romantic night out; Eleven 11, a lively cocktail bar-style restaurant open from 11 am to 11 pm; and Pastifico, which will feature pasta being prepared within view of the customers.

Something clearly had to be done for Berni to increase its market share and attract more young customers, with falling profits and a return on capital below 10 per cent.

A number of experimental changes have been made with £10m being spent on 25 branch conversions in the year to the end of September.

The branches increased their volume of business by 84 per cent. In five years, Berni intends to have 240 Berni Inns, 80 Burgundy Rooms, 120 to 130 Eleven 11s and 60 Pastificos. It is already the largest licensed resturant chain in Europe, serving 13.1 million meals a year, a figure it intends to boost to 27 million by 1988.

Berni intends to increase its returns on capital to about 15 per cent with the increase in branch turnover.

The Pastificio chain is the result of deal with Anglo-American Resturants, which has a chain of pasta American restaurants in the US with the same name.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sarasin 'rescue' for Dunlop

Sarasin International Securities, the financial adviser to a consortium attempting a bid for Dunlop, the beleaguered tyre manufacturer, has cleared the way by which a proposed bid and public quotation could be achieved.

Sarasin said that the Stock Exchange has raised no objections to the proposed plan. This would involve the establishment of a British registered, but unquoted, company whose shares would be sold to American institutions, which are said to be prepared to inject £40m cash.

That company would then make an all-share offer to Dunlop shareholders and if a majority accepted an official listing could be made.

● **BOC Group** reported pretax profits yesterday of £95.8m, down from £102.6m. The figures masked a strong revival in profits in the second half, and the shares rose 14p to 261p, a record. BOC is planning to offer shareholders a scrip issue alternative to the final dividend.

Investors' Notebook, page 18

● **Shareholders** in Stenhouse Holdings, the insurance broker, will be told today by the board whether to accept the controversial £53m offer from its Canadian associate, Reed Stenhouse. Stenhouse Holdings reported profits down from £8.9m to £8.4m yesterday.

● **Britain's car output** this year will top one million for the first time since 1979. Production in the first 11 months of the year was 20 per cent up on the same period a year ago, at 973,000, the Department of Trade and Industry, said yesterday.

● **European Investment Bank** chiefs signed a £10m loan for Short Brothers, the Belfast aircraft manufacturer, yesterday.

Profit-taking hits Dow

WALL STREET

New York (AP-Dow Jones). – Shares were drifting lower in early trading on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was about four points lower at 270, and declines were running about seven-to-six ahead of rising stocks.

The Transportation Average was up by nearly 3 points at 612 – only a fraction below its record of 612.57, set on November 22. Trading was moderately active, with volume reading about 32 million shares.

Mr Alfred Harris, a senior vice-president for Josephthal & Co, said: "We're getting a continuation of the profit-taking, tax selling and portfolio adjustments that are typical of late November trading, which meand a polling readjustment that's running behind schedule."

International Business Machines was up a point at 119⅞, **General Motors** up ½ at 75⅛. **Teledyne** up 1 at 157¾, **Norfolk Southern** up 1 19/64 to 64⅛, **Data General** up ½ at 34¼, **Diebold**, up 1⅛ at 78 and **Time Inc**, up 1¾ to 65¾.

Eastman Kodak was 74¾, down ¼; **Associated Dry Goods** 63¾, down 2¼; **Sun** 43¾, up 1¾; **Delta Airlines** 42⅛, up ½; **Gulf Oil** 42¾, off ⅜; **Cooper Laboratories** 29¼, down 1¼; **Maytag** 52, off 1¼; **Cummins Engine** 81¼, up 1½; and **American Telephone & Telephone** 64, off ⅛.

Italy likely to relent over import quotas

Newsprint dispute nears end

A dispute over newsprint supplies, which threatened to cost British newspaper publishers an extra £2m this month, is likely to be settled in Brussels today.

Telephone discussions between Mr Paul Channon, the Trade Minister, and the Italian Industry Minister, Signor Renato Altissimo, are thought to have resolved a row that caused heated exchanges at the EEC's Foreign Affairs Council two weeks ago.

The Italians have been blocking a supplementary quota for duty-free paper imports from Finland and Canada – arguing that they have 20,000 surplus tonnes in Sardinia and that EEC goods must take preference over outside supplies.

The Newspaper Publishers Association has been stressing that Britain is hardest hit, having used up its 1983 duty-free allocation of 1,062,000 tonnes in the middle of last month. The EEC-wide quota shortage is put at 260,000 tonnes.

Channon: talks with Italians about Britain's plight

Although West German publishers have also used up their allowance, Britain's needs for December are put at between 100,000 and 150,000 tonnes.

The Italians have not actually tried to sell their spare newsprint in Britain and have been told that Fleet Street prefers to use Scandinavian or Canadian paper for its fast-moving machines.

Mr H M Stephen, managing director of the Daily Telegraph and chairman of the Newspaper Raw Materials Committee, said yesterday that the increased duty per tonne would be between £6 and £7.50 for Finnish supplies and between £25 and £30 for those from Canada. "It would mean about an extra £2m on our costs," he said.

Quota increases have always been allowed in previous years.

A meeting of EEC permanent representatives today is likely to sanction an extra 180,000 tonnes, of which 92,645 tonnes would come Britain's way. If the matter spills over to the next Foreign Affairs Council meeting on December 19, the freedom from duty should still apply retrospectively.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Michael Prest

BOC shares soar on £95m profit

The market clearly liked the full-year results from BOC Group yesterday, marking the shares up 14p to a record 261p.

The profits of £95.8m, down from last year's £102.6m, were not out of line with the most recent market estimates, but the *stated figure concealed the* fact that the underlying second half recovery in profits has been more marked than most BOC *watchers had been* bargaining for.

Mr Richard Giordano, the group's £500,000 a year chief *executive, was cautious* yesterday about predicting the prospects for the present financial year, but the benefits of revived *growth in the US particularly* are likely to feed through to the bottom line in significant measure. Some brokers have revised their *forecasts up* as high as £135m, and their optimism does not look way out of order at this stage.

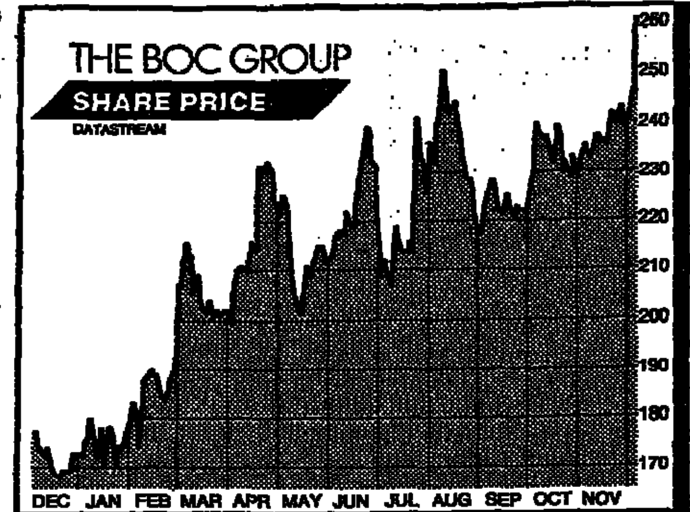
Industrial gases remained the core of the business, with the second half recovery pushing up operating profit on BOC's modified historical cost basis from £103.6m to £121.6m. The fast-growing health care business turned in £55.3m against £39.6m.

The two problem divisions, carbon and carbide, which lost £10.5m, and welding, whose losses more than doubled to £13.8m both included one-off costs, £8.4m associated with the start-up of BOC's new plants in South Carolina and Texas, and £3m on the rationalization of its welding operations in the US.

Extraordinary items knocked further £12.8m off the pretax *figure, reflecting the cost of* pulling out of welding in Britain and cyrogenic equipment manufacture in the US. These *will not be repeated next year,* and Mr Giordano expects that the carbon and carbide business, at least, should be back in the black as well.

Having topped £300m last year (with £100m or so of acquisition on top), capital *spending is expected to drop* significantly this year. A fair chunk will go on the United Kingdom, helping to reverse the recent *geographical bias* towards North America.

BOC expects to rely on self-generated funds without recourse to shareholders or any increase in its £700m of debt. The company is proposing an increase in the net full year dividend from 5.74p to 6.3p, after raising the final to 3.57p, but is offering shareholders the alternative of taking the final in shares. The scrip alternative will also be on offer for future dividend payments. But the 3.4 per cent yield confirms BOC's blue chip standing.



Bass

Bass, Britain's biggest brewer overcame the trend in the rest of the depressed beer market in the year to the end of September.

Group beer volume sales rose by 3 per cent, helped by buoyant Tenants lager sales in Scotland, IPA bitter in London and continued nationwide market penetration by Stones bitter.

The growth came mostly in the second-half when it was combined with the benefits of rationalization. However margins on wines and *spirits* were squeezed and Pontins, the holiday camp business, was weak. So full year pretax profits, up from £136.7m to £175m, did not reflect fully the buoyancy of brewing or the 44 per cent leap the group reported in half-time profits.

Moreover, the figures were flattered by £14.7m of property profits, against only £11.5m last time. The therefore improvement, in the other businesses, is rather less than the reported profits rise of 28 per cent.

The results are nevertheless impressive and an even greater improvement is likely in the present year. *The year started* well with trading in all divisions of the company exceeding the same period last year.

Profits this year will aso benefit from lower rationalization and redundancy costs, which the group has traditionally taken above the line. Therefore £190m looks like given the same property profits.

GUS

Great Universal Stores may not be spearheading the retailing revolution but its no-nonsense approach to how it runs its mainstay mail order business and organizes its own balance sheet is reflected in its defensive strengths.

Interim profits, ahead by almost £10m at £92.2m, were a little better than expected and held out the prospect of at least £220m of high quality profits for the full year. The first half is traditionally weaker for the mail order business – GUS's names include Marshall Ward, John England and many more – but GUS is increasing market share and currently holds about 38 per cent.

Bad debts are under strict control – held at about last year's level – through GUS's sophisticated CCN credit control system, said to be the best in Europe.

The multiple shops – including Morrison's Just Pants Plus – are trading much better than at *this time last* year, *helped by the* boom in spending.

Th deferred profits provision has risen to a hefty £170m. This conservative piece of accounting underpins the whole balance sheet. Depreciation is also conservative at £29m against £20.9m

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Speyhawk
Year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £3.1m (£2.8m)
Stated earnings 18.2p (21.5p)
Turnover £16.1m (£18.7m)
Net dividend 7.7p (7p)
Share price 153p Yield 6.5%

LENNONS GROUP
Half-year to 1.10.83
Pretax profit £600,000 (£135,000 loss)
Stated earnings 1.43p (loss 0.46p)
Turnover £44.7m (£45.2m)
Net interim dividend 0.3p (0.25p)
Share price 40p Yield 3.0%

LOMBARD NORTH CENTRAL
Year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £61.3m (£53.8m)
Stated earnings 93.9p (119.7p)
Turnover £1,657.7m (£1,436.1m)

ALPINE SOFT DRINKS
Half-year to 24.9.83
Pretax loss £203,000 (£651,000 profit)
Loss per share 1.97p (3.17p earnings)
Turnover £9.1m (£9.4m)
Interim 0.6p (1.206p)
Share price 27p

Edbro Holdings
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £1.1m (0.7m)
Stated earnings 12p (7p)
Turnover £9.9m (£9m)
Net interim dividend 2p (same)

N. Brown Investments
Half-year to 3.9.83
Pretax profit £1.2m (£1m)
Stated earnings 5.22p (4.0p)
Turnover £17.9m (£15.2m)
Net interim dividend 2.5p (2p)

Sidlaw Group
Year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £6m (£4.2)
Stated earnings 46.09 (38.41p)
Turnover £43.1m (£36.2m)
Net dividend 16p (12p)

Jackson Exploration
Three months to 30.9.83
Pretax profit U.S.$218,000 (loss $87,000)
Turnover US$1.4m ($1.8m)

Alexander Russell
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £1.3m (£1.1m)
Stated earnings 4.8p (4.2p)
Turnover £13m (£11.9m)
Net interim dividend 0.39p (0.325p)

Fairline Boats
Year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £246,000 (loss £49,000)
Stated earnings 4.4p (1.4p)
Turnover £5.2m (£4m)
Net dividend 1.75p (1p)

Henara starts again with a 95p per share offer

By Jonathan Clare

Mr Sydney Lerner's Henara haircare business is offering shares to the public at 95p each which will give the company a stock market value of about £11m.

The company's public debut was due three weeks ago but the flotation was delayed because of *allegations* that the natural ingredients in henna hair colourings could cause infections. Expert evidence now says the products are safe.

Henara will be a holding company for Mr Lerner's private company Henna (Hair Health) which is both coming to the market and making an offer for the already quoted Dixor-Strand, where Mr Lerner controls 80 per cent of the shares.

WALL STREET

	Dec 7	Dec 6		Dec 7	Dec 6		Dec 7	Dec 6
AMP Inc	19¾	19¾	Fst Intrst Bncp	42⅞	43⅝	Proctor Gamble	[illegible]	[illegible]
AMR	36⅝	39½	Fst Penn Corp	7	7	Pub Ser El & Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allied Chem	53⅝	53½	Ford	42	41¾	Raytheon	[illegible]	46
Allied Stores	53	53¾	GAF Corp	15⅝	15¾	RCA Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allis Chalmers	17	16⅝	GTE Corp	43⅝	43⅝	Republic Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alcoa	45⅛	44⅝	Gen Dynamics	59⅝	58⅝	Reynolds Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amax Inc	25⅞	25⅞	Gen Electric	58⅝	57⅝	Reynolds Metal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amerada Hess	25⅞	25⅞	Gen Foods	53	52⅝	Rockwell Int	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Brands	56⅞	56½	Gen Mills	53⅝	54	Royal Dutch	[illegible]	46
Am Broadcast	55	54⅝	Gen Motors	74⅝	74	Safeways	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Can	49⅝	48⅝	Gen Pub Util NY	8½	8⅝	St Regis Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Cyanamid	50⅝	49⅝	Gen Tire	36⅝	36⅝	Santa Fe Ind	32	[illegible]
Am Elec Power	18⅝	18⅝	Genesco	7⅝	8⅝	SCM	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]								
Du Pont	52	51½	Pacific Gas Elec	16⅝	16⅝	Gulf Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eastern Air	6⅝	5⅞	Pan Am	8⅝	8⅝	Hawker/Sid Can	15⅝	15⅝
Eastman Kodak	78	73⅝	Penney J. C.	56⅝	55⅝	Inasco	34⅝	34⅝
Eaton Corp	54⅝	53⅝	Pennzoil	32⅝	33	Imperial Oil	35⅝	35⅝
El Paso Nat Gas	29⅝	23⅝	Pepsico	37	35⅝	Int Pipe	33⅝	33⅝
Esmark	41½	41⅝	Pfizer	37⅝	36⅝	Mass-Ferguson	6⅝	6⅝
Evans P. D.	9⅝	9⅞	Phelps Dodge	25⅝	25⅝	Royal Trustco	28½	28⅝
Exxon Corp	38⅝	38⅝	Philip Morris	71⅝	71⅝	Seagram	47	47½
Fed Dept Stores	54⅝	54½	Phillips Petrol	33	32⅝	Steel Co	28⅝	29⅝
Firestone	22⅝	22⅝	Polaroid	34	33⅝	Thomson N 'A'	37½	37½
Fst Chicago	23⅝	23	PPG Ind	35½	35⅝	Walker Hiram	28⅝	28
						WCT	15⅝	15⅝

Canadian Prices [illegible]

● Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

EVANS OF LEEDS PLC

Property Investment Group

UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1983

	Half year to 30th Sept. 1983 £	30th Sept. 1982 £
Gross rents receivable	3,019,912	2,886,782
Interest receivable	220,440	93,241
Sundry income	1,585	2,060
Profit from development and sale of properties	27,972	28,773
	3,269,909	3,010,856
Less interest charges and other expenses	1,442,180	1,335,400
Profit before taxation	1,827,729	1,675,456

Interim dividend of 1.25p (1.25p) per share payable 6th January, 1984.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £s per tonne;
Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton;
Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

RUBBER	
Jan	845–35
Feb	845–37
Jan/Mch	853–37
Apl/Jne	855–53
July/Sep	865–63
Oct/Dec	876–75
Jan/Mch	888–85
Apl/Jne	896–95
July/Sep	909–06
Vol:	88
SUGAR	
Mch	160.90–SLR
May	166.10–65.75
Vol:	2572
COCOA	
Dec	1775–68
Mar	1762–60
May	1758–56
July	1750–43
Sep	1733–32
Dec	1730–05
Mar	1715–10
Vol:	11487
COFFEE	
Jan	1985–1984
Mar	1953–1952
May	1870–1869
July	1820–1818
Sept	1783–1779
Nov	1749–1748
Jan	1725–1725
Vol:	2302
GAS OIL	
Dec	246–245.25
Jan	244.50–244.25
Feb	242.50–242.00
Mch	238.50–238.25
Apl	263.50–253.00
May	232.50–234.50
Jun	231.00–235.00
July	231.00–235.00
Aug	231.00–237.00
Vol: 2512	

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices:
Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	1008.5–1009.5
Three months	1034.5–35
T/O:	8550
Tone: Firmer.	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	993–94
Three months	1017–1018
T/O:	1600
Tone: Firmer.	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	8715–25
Three months	8845–50
T/O:	635
Tone: Firmer.	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	8770–80
Three months	8865–70
T/O:	20
Tone: Quiet.	
LEAD	
Cash	283.5–84
Three months	293.5–93.75
T/O:	8160
Tone: Steady.	
ZINC	
Cash	598.50–599.5
Three months	614–614.5
T/O:	3900
Tone: Steady.	
SILVER LARGE	
Cash	690–691
Three months	705–706
T/O:	31
Tone: Very firm.	
SILVER SMALL	
Three months	705–707
T/O:	Six
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	1095–1096
Three months	1123.5–1124
T/O:	4800
Tone: Steady.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3260–3265
Three months	3342–3344
T/O:	720
Tone: Steady.	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET [illegible]

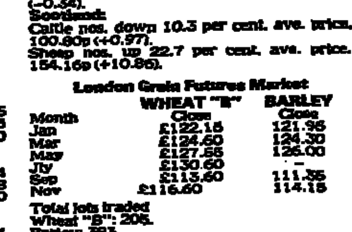
LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES [illegible]

... GILTS
Dec 144 10917
Mar'84 2412 10819
June'84 – 10807
Sept'84 40 10726
Dec'84 –
Comment: Weaker.

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION:
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Dec. 8:
GB: Cattle. 99.27p per kg lw (+0.45).
GB: Sheep. 156.04p per kg est d c w (+7.97).
GB: Pigs. 79.98p per kg lw (–0.34).

England and Wales:
Cattle nos. up 4.9 per cent. ave. price. 98.90p (+0.37).
Sheep nos. up 2.8 per cent. ave. price. 156.66p (+7.27).
Pig nos. up 3.8 per cent. ave. price. 79.98p (–0.34).
Scotland:
Cattle nos. down 10.3 per cent. ave. price. 100.60p (+0.97).
Sheep nos. up 22.7 per cent. ave. price. 154.16p (+10.90).

London Grain Futures Market



Month	WHEAT "B" Close	BARLEY Close
Jan	£122.15	121.95
Mar	£124.60	124.30
May	£127.55	126.00
Jly	£130.60	–
Sep	£113.60	111.35
Nov	£116.60	114.15

Total lots traded
Wheat "B": 205.
Barley: 383.

Inn Leisure Group
Year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £538,000
Stated earnings 2.37p
Turnover £5.1m
Net dividend 0.42p

London and Midland Industrials
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £2.2m (£1.3m)
Stated earnings 5.3p (4.9p)
Turnover £35.2m (£18.6m)
Net interim dividend 3.5p (2.9p)
Share price 113p
Dividend payable 17.2.84

Mitchell Somers
Half-year to 1.10.83
Pretax profit £9,000 (£717,000)
Turnover £13.3m (£16.3m)
Net interim dividend 1.5p (1.5p)

J A Devenish
Year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £1.9m (£1.8m)
Stated earnings 32.2p (38.5p)
Turnover £22.2m (£21.4m)
Net dividend 10.25p (9.5p)

JOHNSON MATTHEY PLC ('JM')

and

RUSTENBURG PLATINUM HOLDINGS LIMITED ('RPH')

on behalf of

RUSTENBURG PLATINUM MINES LIMITED ('RPM')

(a wholly owned subsidiary of RPH

The agreements in terms of which the Matthey Rustenburg Refiners Group (MRR) undertakes the refining of primary and secondary platinum group metals (PGMs) and of base metals are due to expire on 31st March 1987.

JM and RPM are pleased to announce that terms have been agreed that will cover the period until 31st December 1996. Under the new arrangements RPM will assume responsibility for base metal refining and accordingly the MRR assets at Rustenburg will be transferred to RPM at the end of this calendar year.

PGM *refining* at Wadeville and Royston will *continue* under the management and operational control of MRR which will remain in the ownership of JM and RPM. At Wadeville the assets will be transferred to RPM at the end of this calendar year while at Royston the assets will remain in the ownership of MRR.

JM and RPM are confident that under the revised arrangements their long standing partnership will continue to the benefit of their customers.

Pegler-Hattersley plc

Interim Report

Half year to 1 October 1983	Half year to 1.10.83 unaudited £'000	25.9.82 unaudited £'000	Year to 2.4.83 £'000
Sales	78,830	70,207	149,155
Trading profit	4,211	3,682	10,533
Share of associated company profits	2,839	2,546	5,209
Interest received less paid	820	1,059	2,020
Profit before tax	7,870	7,287	17,762
Profit after tax	4,151	4,105	10,248
Earnings per share	13.6p	13.4p	33.6p
Ordinary dividend per share	5.0p	4.0p	11.85p

* Pre-tax profit increased by 8%.
* The improvement in trading profit came mainly from our UK manufacturing operations.
* Most sectors of the market for building products were strongly competitive but sales were higher and in the Valve division demand from the Heating and Construction sectors increased.
* We do not as yet see any evidence of the general or sustained increase in demand or improvement in margins which are required to support real growth.

Sir Peter Matthews, Chairman

Copies of the full interim report are available from the Secretary, Pegler-Hattersley plc, St. Catherines Avenue, Doncaster DN4 8DF.

BUILDING PRODUCTS – VALVES – INDUSTRIAL COMPONENTS

Scapa Group

(Engineered fabrics for the paper making industry, felts and other specialised industrial textiles)

Half year to 30 September

	1983 £000	1982 £000
Sales by companies based in:		
United Kingdom	17,425	17,745
North America	31,777	26,187
Other Countries	7,238	5,708
	56,440	49,640
Operating profit:		
United Kingdom	1,268	1,211
North America	6,858	5,654
Other Countries	826	795
	8,952	7,660
Interest paid less received	1,252	988
Profit before taxation	7,700	6,672
Taxation	3,923	3,270
Profit after taxation	3,777	3,402
Interim Dividend (Payable 20 January 1984)	3.15p	3.0p
Earnings per share	11.6p	10.4p

The unaudited profits before tax for the six months to 30 September, 1983 show a substantial increase over those for the corresponding period, helped by the movement in the dollar exchange rate. It is gratifying that all three areas recorded *increased profits at the pre-tax level.*



Scapa Group plc, Oakfield House,
52 Preston New Road, Blackburn BB2 6AH



A. Beckman PLC

Fabric Merchants and Converters

Profitability Maintained

Year ended June 30	1983 £m	1982 £m
Turnover	13.3	14.5
Profit before tax	1.21	1.23
Profit after tax	0.74	1.00
Earnings per share	7.2p	9.8p

Mr. S. Beckman, Chairman, reports:

- Margins and profitability maintained with firm control of overheads.
- Property investment extended: new purchase for £1.2m of fully let office building in London funded from our own resources. Rental income next year will exceed £500,000.
- Dividends for the year amount to 5.73p per share, same as previous year. With associated tax credit total is equivalent to 8.19p.

Copies of the Annual Report are available from the Secretary, 111-113 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5FA.

GUS THE GREAT UNIVERSAL STORES P.L.C.

Comparative Consolidated Profits
(unaudited)

	Half Year Ended 30th September 1983 £000's	1982 £000's
Turnover — Outside group [including V.A.T. £94,433,000 (last year £86,532,000)]	1,042,597	927,449
Profit before taxation [after charging depreciation £29,022,000 (last year £20,972,000)]	92,231	82,808
Deduct: Taxation:—		
Current	25,860	20,895
Deferred	14,770	15,135
[1983 — estimated effective rates for the year (1982 — actual rates for year)]	40,630	36,030
	51,601	46,778
Deduct: Outside shareholders' interest	45	17
Preference dividends of Parent Company	35	35
	80	52
Profit after taxation attributable to the equity stockholders	51,521	46,726
Earnings per stock unit	20.59p	18.67p
Interim Dividend declared	5.5p	5.0p

The dividend amounts to £13,764,000 (last year £12,512,000) and *will be paid on 30th March, 1984* to stockholders on the Register at the close of business on 23rd February, 1984.

Hire purchase and other instalment debts

The provisions for deferred profit, finance charges and collection costs, etc. are as follows:-

	£000's
31st March 1983	168,026
30th September 1983	170,188

Exchange Rates

The results of overseas companies for the half years to 30th September 1982 and 1983 have been translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at those dates.

8th December 1983

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6¾%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¾%; £50,000 and over, 7¾%.

THIS NOTICE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER FOR SALE AND THE STOCKS LISTED BELOW ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE DIRECT FROM THE BANK OF ENGLAND. OFFICIAL DEALINGS IN THE STOCKS ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE ARE EXPECTED TO COMMENCE ON FRIDAY, 9TH DECEMBER 1983.

ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT STOCK

The Bank of England announces that Her Majesty's Treasury has created on 7th December 1983, and has issued to the Bank, additional amounts, as indicated, of each of the Stocks listed below:

£300 million 10¼ per cent EXCHEQUER STOCK, 1995
£200 million 10½ per cent EXCHEQUER STOCK, 1997

The price paid by the Bank on issue was in each case the middle market closing price of the relevant Stock on 7th December 1983 as certified by the Government Broker.

In each case, the amount issued on 7th December 1983 represents a further tranche of the relevant Stock, ranking in all respects *pari passu* with that Stock and subject to the terms and conditions of its prospectus, save as to the particulars therein which related solely to the initial sale of the Stock. Copies of the prospectuses for the Stocks listed above, dated 9th January 1978 and 14th October 1977 respectively, may be obtained at the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA.

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for each further tranche of stock to be admitted to the Official List.

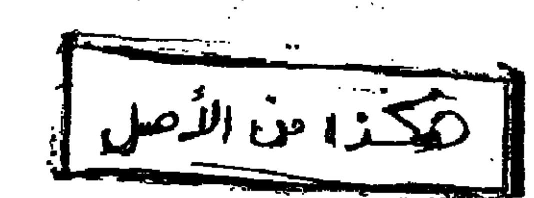
The Stocks are repayable at par, and interest is payable half-yearly, on the dates shown below:

Stock	*Redemption date*	*Interest payment dates*
10¼ per cent Exchequer Stock, 1995	21st July 1995	21st January, 21st July
10½ per cent Exchequer Stock, 1997	21st Feb 1997	21st February, 21st August

Each further tranche of stock issued on 7th December 1983 will rank for a full six months' interest on the next interest payment date applicable to the relevant Stock.

BANK OF ENGLAND
LONDON

7th December 1983



YOUR OWN BUSINESS

MSC training set to get a re-vamp

By Jeremy Warner

The Manpower Services Commission will spend £5.3m on small business and enterprise training this financial year and around £7.7m next.

This is still a small amount by comparison with what is spent by government on other forms of training but it has grown rapidly from small beginnings in 1977 and is still the only form of direct government funding for training in this field.

Unfortunately the four enterprise courses offered by the Manpower Services Commission suffer from a near fatal flaw. They are run under the Training Opportunities Programme which excludes all but a tiny minority of the sort of people to whom small business training might be useful.

To qualify under TOP you must be unemployed, 19 years of age or older and out of full-time education for at least two years. The category of people to whom MSC small business training is available traditionally account for only 1 per cent of the small businesses formed.

The effectiveness of the training and what is on offer might also be called into doubt. Two out of three London job centres contacted by The Times were unable to offer any advice on training in the small business field despite the fact that the job centres are expected to provide the main way of promoting the courses.

There is evidence to suggest that some of the polytechnics and business schools which receive funding for small business training regard the MSC as little more than a gravy train while there is a general lack of consistency, standard of content, and direction among the courses offered in different parts of the country.

According to the MSC, its courses have already facilitated the launch of 1,900 small businesses that have survived the first year when some 25 per cent of new ventures fail, and thus helped in the creation of some 7,000 jobs. Since there is nothing comparable it is impossible to tell whether this is a succesful application of the money or not.

The number of places available on the courses – just 3,000 for £3.5m this year would not appear good value for money though it should be born in mind that some of the training involves long and costly residential courses and that the cost of the whole exercise could be roughly halved if the allowances paid to participants under TOP were stripped out.

These are all criticisms that have been taken on board by the MSC's new head of enterprise training, Mr Hugh Sharp. "I recognise that the old Training Opportunities Programme rules that have bound us are no longer appropriate and it is doubtful that they ever have been," he says.

"I am also unhappy with the standard of what is available. More needs to be done to streamline and standardise the courses. Urgent consideration is being given to ways of making the courses available to those who felt themselves excluded because they are in full time employment.

A document detailing the ways in which the MSC's training schemes should be revamped to meet new needs is due to be published shortly as part of the Adult Training Initiative lauched last summer.

This is expected to give the stamp of approval to opening up a whole range of courses included interprise training to those who already have a job.

Catch-22 for small firms

Several small firms have run into a "Catch-22" problem with the "funded consultancy scheme" operated by the Design Council, but funded by the Department of Trade and Industry. The scheme is designed to help small firms use specialist industrial designers to design new, or update old, products. But the conditions laid down by the DTI specify that a company must employ at least 60 people to be eligible.

The result is that several successful small firms can get no grant until they employ more staff – but dare not take on any more employees until they get help to develop the new product.

£20,000 prizes from bank

The National Westminster Bank is providing cash prizes of £20,000 in a competition to encourage enterprise among small businessmen. The 1984 first prize is 50 per cent higher than this year at £15,000.

The balance of £5,000 will be split between three runners-up. Companies entering the competition must demonstrate successful innovation and show how they would invest the cash in their companies. The competition is organised by Venture Capital Report and is open to small firms



'I was rather hoping you'd be an executive of a multi-billion dollar American corporation offering to buy me out'

BRIEFING

with less than 50 employees, sales of less then £750,000 and assets of less than £1.5m.

Call for tax reform

The Government is being urged to reform company tax radically by the Association of Independent Businesses. If the system was changed so that it encouraged businesses that wanted to expand, the Inland Revenue would have to spend less time worrying about 'evasion schemes', the AIB says.

The AIB's proposals for reform have been submitted to the Inland Revenue and Government ministers and include: relief for real increases in stock, debtors and working capital resulting from business expansion rather than inflation and allowing dividends in private companies against income in the same way as interest on loans in order to encourage equity expansion.

EEC climate

A study of the environment for small businesses in the ten member states of the European Community has been published. It was carried out by the Economist Intelligence Unit for the United Kingdom Organising Committee for the European Year of the Small and Medium Sized Enterprise.

The purpose of the study was to collect comparative information on the legal and economic environment for small businesses in the Community and attempt to rank these environments in order of favourability to profit maximization by existing small businesses.

LEA courses for all

The London Enterprise Agency is throwing its small business training courses open to entrepreneurs from all over the country. Previously they had been available to Londoners only.

The courses, which are run in conjunction with the Polytechnic of Central London, are suitable for those already running a business as well as those still in employment who are thinking of the possibility.

Vicky Sargent, the Agency's training manager, said the decision to go nationwide recognised the general dearth of small business courses outside those run by the agency. The courses are run as a series of four linked weekends over a period of 2-3 months and cost £200, a price that includes meals and accommodation.

Co-op sticks

The Co-operative Bank is holding its standard charge for corporate customers for 1984 at current rates – 35p per £100 of debit turnover. The Co-op Bank is the only bank which publishes its business tariff. Most other banks are likely to suggest higher charges to their business customers next year but the lack of information about tariffs makes comparison difficult.

Money in those dry-ski slopes

By Judith Stares

Owners of undulating land might like to consider investing in a boom leisure industry. For a capital outlay of approximately £400,000 it is possible to establish a top-class artificial ski slope which is profitable.

Such an arrangement has been well-proven by the largest dry ski slope in England at Robinswood Hill in Gloucester shown with a learner, left. Once the area was devoted to farmland, but it is now host to a 250 metre slope used by some 400 each day, paying from £2.80 per hour for the pleasure of learning how to slide and turn with skill.

Alan Hull is a director and instructor and has been with the Gloucester Ski Centre since its launch in 1976. He now supervises a staff of11, which includes four instructors. "Dry ski slopes were originally intended for people going away on holiday, to get them going," he explains. "Gradually they have got longer and longer and now we have a generation of skiers using them as a legitimate form of recreation in its own right."

Of the 70 slopes in the UK, approximately 15 are privately owned, and Alan Hull believes that is where their future lies. "Since the Sports Council cut grant aid local authorities do not have the kind of money needed to run a slope profitably.

He also believes that it is essential to offer apres-ski conviviality, and floodlight skiing for evening customers.

One-woman mine detector

By Sally Watts

Offer companies a service that saves them money, and you are in business. This reasoning led Miss Jane Molloy, a former personnel manager in her early thirties with an MBA from Cranfield, to set up her one-woman personnel management consultancy at Teddington, Middlesex.

That was nearly two years ago and her idea has proved itself, partly the result of timing. Today many small employers cannot afford to run a personnel department, and are striving to find their own way through the minefield of ever increasing employment legislation, and having to draw up recruiting advertisements, interview applicants, handle redundancies, cope with staff problems.

By helping companies like these to save time, resolve difficulties and increase their effectiveness, Miss Molloy's own business grew within six months to the point where she received enough work from referrals to keep her busy.

The timing of her own career was equally appropriate. After nearly 10 years' employed experience in personnel work, she put herself through the post-graduate MBA course in order to increase her business, financial and marketing skills. It was only as the course ended that she thought about striking out on her own, and started Independent Personnel Management, a staff advisory service within a business framework.

"At first it was an uphill climb. I knew how to run a company but not how to start one, so I had to work out how to scale everything down to the size of a small consultancy", she recalls. But now her training and experience have come together to give her two complementary sets of skills, as business woman and personnel manager.

"My job is to help management run their business more efficiently. Personnel staff are often traditionally pro-employees. But I have a business school background and I see my role as supporting line management."

For example, small companies cannot afford to "carry" inefficient staff, as larger concerns may, and where necessary Miss Molloy advises them about shedding under-achievers, while also securing fair terms and the right length of notice for departing staff, and helping them towards re-employment.

Although she gives one-off advice when this is asked, her main function is to provide a continuing, external advisory service – cost-effective and independent of involvement in company politics – to employers who are looking for wide-ranging professional skills.

She shows firms how to save hefty sums on training commitments, yet make them more effective; represents companies at tribunals, thereby cutting out legal fees; and removes the need for clients to draw on agencies, by providing an advertisement design service.

She has also interviewed job applicants; prevented one very new employer, who was signing up three staff members for the first time, from using wrongly worded contracts that could have led to unnecessarily high compensation; and, following a merger of two companies, devised and implemented a grading structure for all the computing and administrative jobs.

In her experience, new small firms often overlook the importance of seeing their business from the potential coustomer's viewpoint.

















APPOINTMENTS

General manager at Halifax

Halifax Building Society: Mr David Gilchrist, previously assistant general manager, has become a general manager. He remains responsible for economic and corporate planning. Mr Peter Wood, previously chief inspector, has joined the executive as a secretary and will undertake responsibilities concerning the mortgage and insurance area.

British Home Stores: From January 1, Mr D. P. Cassidy and Mr J. F. Power, who are both directors, to be assistant managing directors, jointly with Mr N. T. Griffin. Mr Cassidy will have responsibility for sales and for the food and restaurant business and Mr Power responsibility for merchandise and finance. Mr C. B. Williams, a divisional director, will be appointed director, store operations.

Morgan Grenfell Property Services: Mr Robert Hannington has been made a director to be responsible for property investment acquisition in the UK and US.

London and Scottish Marine Oil: Sir David Nicolson is now a non-executive director.

Phillips Petroleum: Mr W. W. Allen, operations manager, Ivory Coast Region, will be promoted to chairman and managing director, Phillips Petroleum UK on January 1.

W. Vinten Limited: Mr G. E. Jones becomes managing director of the company, a subsidiary of Vinten Group, from January 3, 1984.

C & K Consulting Group: Mrs Rosemary Brown has been appointed director of business development.

TSB England and Wales: Mr Ken Millichap, a senior partner with Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Co, accountants, has been made deputy chairman.

BUPA: Mr R. M. Graham, deputy chief executive, will be acting chief executive from January 1 and will succeed Mr D. V. Damerell as chief executive on the latter's retirement next year.

Airclaims Group: Mr Michael Narracott is now chief executive. Mr David Proudlove has retired as managing director and has been made a deputy chairman.

Graham Searjeant examines the implications of this week's Neddy meeting

Breaking the unemployment impasse

In an unwonted outbreak of chumminess, Government, TUC and CBI all agreed with Mr John Cassells, director-general of the National Economic Development Office, that this week's long-heralded Neddy meeting on the future for jobs was one of the most constructive on record.

As you would expect in such an atmosphere of accord, none of the parties made any suggestions that are likely to make a rapid dent in Britain's three million recorded unemployment total.

The Government's paper, while making a sober assessment of where new jobs might come from and what might be done to facilitate the process, rested its case on the ability of its broad ecomomic strategy to generate jobs in the long-term by improving the productivity, efficiency, competitiveness and thus growth of the British economy in a sound and stable financial environment.

"Jobs may be lost in the industries experiencing the greatest productivity advanced", it concedes. But they will be "gained elsewhere in the economy as the higher incomes that come from higher productivity are spent", mainly in the service sector.

The TUC, in its paper, while doubting some of the Government's flirtations with small business and self-employment, came to similar conclusions, though noting, with its different strategy, that "a return to sustainable high growth is an essential precondition for the success of industrial and other supply-side policies and thus for a return to higher levels of employment".

A precondition it may be, but not necessarily a sufficient condition. There are many explanations for Britain's sudden, internationally long and recalcitrant job queues. According to taste, you can cite: the inevitable adjustment of the exchange rate to North Sea oil and its necessary effect on manufacturing; the monetarist combination of high interest and exchange rates that knocked out for more capacity than the trade cycle justified; structural changes to adjust to new technologies abroad and now at home or the long-delayed shake-out of labour required to achieve the once-and-for-all leap in productivity needed to put Britain back in the hunt.

Whichever explanation is preferred, neither common sense, nor the evidence suggests that a return to sustainable economic growth will do more than allow Britain to return to a normal path of prosperity and job-creation.

That would make little impact on the extra, non-cyclical unemployment, perhaps 1.5 to 2 million, souls, save on the longest perspectives of economic equilibrium.

In essence, what the three differing parties to Neddy agreed was that Britain's high unemployment was but a feature, however unacceptable, of general economic problems, which cound be cured only by the working of overall economic strategy even thugh special attention should be given to smoothing the path of new jobs.

To government, which points to American success in creating jobs, this special attention is mainly a matter of easing rigidities in the labour market and labour mobility to promote rapid adjustment, and partly a cause for extra efforts to help train school leavers and promote new venturers.

To the unions it is predictably a matter of the Government committing itself to output growth through its economic strategy and hence generating sufficient confidence about future demand among industrialists to persuade them to invest.

But the message is essentially the same in denying that unemployment is a separate issue from the future prosperity of the economy. Yet unemployment has now become an economic problem in its own right, which, whatever the strategic view, undermines the recovery of the economy as a whole.

Unemployment has prevented essential tax cuts

At one level, unemployment has created problems of income distribution. Britain still has a slightly higher proportion of its population working than most other EEC countries (which on average enjoy a higher standard of living) and much more than Japan, which also enjoys more income per head.

In principle, it would be a boon to achieve greater prosperity without so many of us having to work. But the pattern of job losses has left whole cities and regions with inadequate spending power and, more particularly, millions of individual families as a new poor class.

The need to sustain those left out of our lopsided dash for prosperity has created a more pressing problem of state finances. The excess unemployment alone drains an annual £10 billion or so from the fisc, equivalent to 10p on income tax.

This has prevented tax cuts, an essential part of the Government's supply-side strategy: it has required emergency cuts in public investment (part of the TUC's); and it has focused longer term public spending pressure on health and education, precisely those parts of the public sector which, if the American pattern is to be followed, should be providing growth areas for activity and jobs.

EMPLOYEES IN EMPLOYMENT, GB, 1973, 1979 AND 1983

	Emp'yes (000s)			Change in emp'ment 1973-1983	
	June 1973	June 1979	June 1983	Number (000s)	%pa
All industries and services	22,180	22,590	20,460	-1,720	-0.8
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	420	360	340	-80	-2.1
Mining and quarrying	360	350	310	-50	-1.5
Manufacturing	7,660	7,050	5,370	-2,290	-3.5
Construction	1,340	1,250	970	-370	-3.2
Gas, electricty and water	340	340	320	-20	-0.4
Service industries	12,060	13,240	13,150	+1,090	+0.9

Source: *Employment Gazette*
Note: The 1983 figures include an allowance for the probable understatement of the level of employment, particularly in the service industries, in the basic series.

GROWTH OF SERVICE EMPLOYMENT, GB, 1973-81

	Employment in June 1981 (employees and self-employed) (millions)	Change 1973-81 (millions)
All services	14.4	+1.2
of which		
Transport and communications	1.5	–
Distributive trades	3.2	–
Insurance, banking, finance and business services	1.4	+0.3
Professional and scientific services	3.9	+0.5
Miscellaneous services	2.9	+0.4
Public administration	1.5	–

Source: *Employment Gazette*

From this national point of view there are clearly three ways of tackling the unemployment problem within the given economic tretegy.

Government can help create jobs by distributing public spending to labour intensive areas such as construction or services. It can, to the same end make labour more attractive to employers by cutting social security and other taxes or by improving vocational training. And it can encourage private investment through the interest rates or tax incentives. But government can also try to induce the unemployed to become self-employed and it can help them to leave the labour force altogether, via tax incentives or the traditional standby of emigrating.

Short-term crash programme is needed

There are already a number of encouraging signs. Treasury ministers are now firmly on the defensive over public investment and seem in the process of a change of attitude.

The privatization programme, allied to competition measures is gradually freeing state monopolies from the public borrowing trap. The Youth Training Scheme and wider vocational education initiatives to staunch the flow of unemployables are impressive.

The National Insurance Surcharge is on the way out. Although little thought has yet been given to the more significant burden of mainstream employers' contributions.

Small business promotion is having its effect as the birth rate of new companies starts to outpace the catastrophic death rate.

Self-employment, once down to 1.8 million, has crept up above 2 million though it is still a weak feature of the economy, at about 8 per cent of the population compared with 12.5 per cent for the EEC as a whole or 15 per cent including family workers.

Many married women workers, more willing to work than their continental counterparts, have been forced to switch to part-time jobs. The proportion of British families with both spouses in the labour market remains high, but we may be moving to more flexible family combinations or employment, part-time work and self-employment.

On a long perspective, all this may have some effect. But it does not offer any real prospect of government being able to break out of the fiscal trap brought by unemployment. This is not simply a matter of welfare costs and tax losses. Palliative youth training schemes, regional aid, investment incentives all cost billions a year and seem destined to swell the public spending total indefinitely.

Quite apart from ruling out more desirable public spending or tax cuts, this prevents government from sorting out taxes on the low-paid. The poverty trap is now recognized as a big deterrent to employment or self-employment. As the Government's Neddy paper coyly puts it, the economic strategy has provided "conditions for lower taxes and interest rates". But the grind of unemployment costs is stopping the Chancellor from realizing the benefits.

Industrial notebook

Why not the Nobel prize for business?

As a sideshow to tomorrow's Nobel award ceremonies in Stockholm and Oslo, the Nobel Foundation has declared today The Day of the Nobel Companies.

There is to be a meeting in Oslo this afternoon of the representatives of a dozen or more concerns which, like Dynamit Nobel, Wien Gmbh of Austria, were founded by the explosives magnate, or like Sweden's own AB Befors, once belonged to him. In between, there is our own ICI, whose chairman, Mr John Harvey-Jones will be present, no doubt wearing one of his direst ties. ICI was founded, after the Swede's death, in a merger instigated by Nobel's British company which, like ICI today, was the world's biggest maker of industrial explosives.

Directing proceedings is the deputy chairman of the Nobel Foundation, Dr Tore Browaldh, vice-chairman of Svenska Handelsbanken.

It is a meeting at which the "Nobel Heritage" will be discussed gravely but, since it is a private gathering only the participants will emerge any the wiser. The important thing about this conclave, however, is that it is taking place at all.

Alfred Nobel is known as a philanthropist and is remembered, albeit imperfectly, as the inventor of dynamite. In view of the bloody uses to which this and his other explosive inventions subsequently were put, the Nobel Foundation skirts gingerly around its benefactor's industrial achievements.

This is the 150th anniversary of his birth, in what is now central Stockholm. What better year to make a modest proposal that there be a huge Nobel prize, for business or commercial innovation? This would commemorate Nobel's achievements in industrial organization and as a model employer. It might also encourage stronger links between public spirit and business enterprise.

Computers, microchips, pharmaceuticals, name your own idea – all have potential for good and ill, as did Nobel's explosives. He tamed nitroglycerine, the biggest advance in blasting since gunpowder was introduced in the Middle Ages. He discovered a market – the railway builders and mining engineers of the Americas and of Europe and her empires – but it was the government who turned over his factories to munitions.

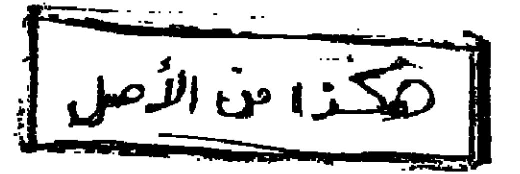
And, unlike so many inventors before or since, Nobel saw to it that he reaped the benefit. Since transporting nitroglycerine was dangerous, he made it wherever it was needed. Spurning banks (they let his father go broke) he induced local businessmen to put up the cash and the management, to which he contributed his patents in return for a minority of the shares.

In this way, he quickly built up enterprises in five continents and in so doing became a father of the multi-nationals – another invention that has had a controversial history since.

To introduce another Nobel award, it might be argued, would be to tamper with Nobel's will. But so, too was what everybody now thinks of as the Nobel Prize for Economics. Nobel, a polymath, left money for awards in the subjects which interested him – chemistry, physics, physiology, medicine, literature. He did not like crooked or grasping business people, didn't like bankers at all and certainly did not think enough of economists to provide for them in his will. But this did not stop the Nobel Foundation, from accepting a new award 14 years ago, which is called, ironically, the Bank of Sweden Prize in Economics in memory of Nobel.

Remarking that business underlies everything in national life, the 1919 Nobel Peace laureate Woodrow Wilson went on to observe that the first petition in the Lord's Prayer is for our daily bread. Is it not odd that, in memorializing Alfred Nobel himself, inventor, industrial innovator, good employer, the foundation should choose a prize in economics rather than business, thus dignifying not the means by which we get our daily bread, but our squabbles about who should have the biggest slice?

Ross Davies



MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

Sohio visit bolsters BP

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, Nov 28. Dealings end, Dec 9. Contango Day, Dec 12. Settlement Day, Dec 19.

The directors of BP's US subsidiary, Sohio, breezed into town yesterday hoping to soothe City fears about prospects for its Mukluk project in Alaska after the failure, so far, to find oil.

Their message was loud and clear, "The Mukluk project is not dead, but badly wounded". It was enough to add 4p to BP shares at 398p, after 402p. The sparsely attended meeting of institutions and brokers, arranged jointly by brokers Scrimgeour Kemp Gee and Hoare Govett at the Café Royal, was given a rundown of the group's other projects in the Prudhoe Bay area, including Sag River and Long Island.

But the analysts appeared more preoccupied with recent events at Mukluk, which earlier this week sent shares of BP tumbling 24p to 392p. Mukluk has been one of the most expensive drilling operations yet and has cost BP and Sohio a total of $400m (£277m). Drilling on Mukluk will continue until next March and Sohio is confident of finding oil at a greater depth.

Last year Sohio contributed £500m to BP's total profits of £716m, and during the first nine months of the current year that figure had reached £450m.

However, it now looks as though Sohio will eventually have to write off at least half of the $400m.

Phoenix Assurance continued to edge nearer to its year's high with a rise of 5p to 386p yesterday. Hopes are higher that once the battle for control of Eagle Star is resolved, Phoenix will be the next composite to come under the hammer. Dealers are talking of a bid of about 500p a share.

The rest of the oil sector put up a better performance, despite of Opec crisis in Geneva, where a split has developed ovwer price and production levels. **Shell** recovered 10p to 570p, while **Burmah** added 1p at 166p.

The rest of the equity market showed few signs of faltering on its record-breaking run as a lack of sellers continued to drive prices higher in the thin conditions. The *FT* index closed just below its best levels of the day, 6.6 up at a record 760.2 with one day of the account left.

Dealers reported plenty of new time demand for the bid situations, but generally interest remained selective.

Gilts showd mixed movements, with prices at the shorter end almost unchanged as the pound staged a small rally on the foreign exchange markets to close 65 points higher at $1.4420, having hit a record low during the day.

Among the composite insurers, **Commercial Union** denied reports it had received an approach from one of the big US conglomerates which had pushed up the share price 3p to 186p. A spokesman said: "We are not the subject of a bid."

But the weak pound was good news for the insurance brokers. **C E Heath** was 10p higher at 332p, **Minet Holdings** 3p to 139p, **Sedgwick Group** rose 11p to 338p, **Stewart Wrightson** up 10p to 276p and **Willis Faber** 10p higher at 655p. **Queens Moat Houses** has confirmed its intention of raising £15m by placing of first mortgage debenture stock 2013 secured on 10 of its hotels and the Heybridge banqueting centre. The stock is being issued £1.70 above that of Treasury 13½ per cent 2004/08. The proceeds will go to reduce borrowings. Shares of Queens Moat were unchanged at 35½.

Analysts were last night trying to gauge the effects of government actions to try to limit the profits for drug companies from sales to the National Health Service. The measures, expected to save the Government more than £100m a year, are likely to be bad news for Boots, which in its interim figures made a clawback provision of £6m for its sales to the health service. Last night the shares closed 4p higher at 181p.

NME Facilities, which provides production facilities for the broadcasting, television and video industries, made a modest start to dealings on the Unlisted Securities Market. The 2 million shares placed by the broking firm, James Capel at 40p opened at 41p, but closed unchanged at 40p, valuing the entire company at £3.7m. NME is jointly owned by Greenstar Leisure and Mike Mansfield Enterprises which continue to hold 54 per cent of the remaining shares between them.

Shares of Miss Debbie Moore's **Pineapple Dance Studio** has slipped 2 to 101p, while the nil paid shed 1p to 5p ahead of news, expected next week, that the group is set to take part in a joint venture with the business expansion funds of Charterhouse and Electra Investments.

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

PLANTATIONS

Sterling: Spot and Forward

Money Market Rates

Other Markets

Dollar Spot Rates

Euro-$ Deposits

Gold

MISCELLANEOUS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
40½	31	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£40½	..	500	12.3	..
72	17½	Gt. Nthn Telo	£70	-2	150	2.1	31.7
72	39	Milford Docks	57	..	0.1	0.2	..
120	76½	Nesco Inv	85	..	10.0	11.8	..
40½	31	Sunderland Wtr	£40½	..	500	12.3	..

UNLISTED SECURITIES

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	Air [illegible]	422	r +3	[illegible]	[illegible]	21.1
250½	53	Berke[illegible]	65	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	..
170	160	Cent [illegible] TV NY	170	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	..
265	110	[illegible] Hldgs	221	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	..
[illegible]	114	Gee (Cecil)	119	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	23.6
86	66	Godwin Warren	86	..	2.0b	2.3	13.5
430	74½	Merrydown Wine	390	..	7.1	1.8	16.4
147	100	Metal Bulletin	115	..	8.6	7.5	10.9
670	285	Micro Focus	620	..	..b	..	..
193	140	Microlease	193	..	2.9b	1.5	..
231	106	Miles 33	205	..	2.9	1.4	21.9
43	26	New Court Nat	26	..	1.7	6.6	10.2
29¼	13	Owners Abroad	28¼	..	0.7	2.5	12.7
52	8½	Parkfield Fndry	51	+3	..	..	..
197	141	Resource Tech	181	..	..b	..	34.2
135	123	Securiguard	125	..	2.5	2.0	27.6
86	45	S.W.Resources	73	-2	2.6	3.6	..

● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

CRICKET

Counties may have to bowl at least 117 overs a day in championship matches

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

Among several significant recommendations to be put to the Test and County Cricket Board at their statutory winter meeting, to be held at Lord's next Tuesday, is one which, if accepted, will require a minimum of 117 overs to be bowled in a full day's championship cricket.

Another attempt is to be made at reaching an agreement whereby no county would be allowed to include more than one "overseas" player after the end of the 1985 season; and, sadly, the limitation of bouncers in county cricket to one an over is likely to be abandoned.

The TCCB have fought more or less a lone battle against excessive use of the bouncer, the most malign single development in modern cricket, especially when bowled from round the wicket. When, prior to meeting West Indies, Australia and Pakistan, England have suggested that bouncers should be restricted to one per over, they have invariably been knocked back. Now they themselves have given up the ghost. It will be left again to the umpires to decide what constitutes "an attempt to intimidate the striker", and in this they have a poor record.

Bob Willis, the England captain, is known to think that the limit of one an over is detrimental to English batsmanship. When, in Australia and West Indies, anything up to four an over are being bowled, he considers that the England players are neither temperamentally nor technically prepared for it. "If you can't beat them, join them"; that is what it seems to have come to, to the delight no doubt of all young, strong and aggressive fast bowlers, not to mention the manufacturers of helmets and splints.

In recent years the hours of play in championship cricket have been from 11.0 until 6.30. Over the course of a season county sides have been fined for not averaging 19 overs an hour, or 123.5 overs in a full six and a half day. Many of them have either settled for the fine or looked for opportunities of boosting their average in, for example, the last two hours of a match when a draw has become inevitable.

The most extreme example of this was at Chelmsford in August when Essex rattled through 57 overs in 80 mins. In future, players may have to stay on the field, working overtime as it were, to complete the 117 overs required of them. Due allowances would be made, of course, for unscheduled stoppages.

The figure of 117 is calculated on 18 overs to the hour, which is still a concession to the slow coaches. In 1930 in the Lord's Test between England and Australia the average for the match was 22 to the hour; in the Lord's Test of 1946, between England and India, it was 23. By 1980, when West Indies were bowling at the Oval, it had sunk to just over 12. In next year's Test matches in England, West Indies are to be asked to agree to 96 overs in the day.

The latest proposal for trimming "overseas" players to one per county side, and for this to be implemented sooner rather than later, sets the end of the 1985 season as a deadline. After that no county could play more than one of them. Least well suited by this would be Somerset, who have two such players – very considerable ones, too, in Garner and Richards – under contract until the end of 1986. For one reason and another Tuesday's meeting seems unlikely to be a short one.

Imran cleared to play in fourth Test

Sydney (Reuter) – The injured Pakistan captain Imran Khan has been cleared by an orthopaedic surgeon to play in the fourth Test against Australia starting in Melbourne on December 26.

Imran has been unable to play because of a stress fracture of his left shin since the touring side arrived in Australia in October, but a leading Sydney specialist said yesterday that the latest X-ray examination of the Pakistani captain's leg showed he had made good progress. He would be able to resume playing after the third Test which was due to start today in Adelaide.

After leaving the surgery, Imran said: "It is a great weight off my mind. I wasn't hoping for miracles but just for the best. But bowling immediately for me is out of the question, although I want to do both in the Melbourne Test, and then the Sydney Test and the one-day internationals later".

Imran said he was thinking of getting some practice in Hobart in Pakistan's match against Tasmania from December 16 to 19.

"But I must be careful and give the shin the maximum time in between to be sure of playing on December 26", he said.

Imran: on the mend

Asked if he thought that his ability to play again would give new heart to his countrymen, Imran replied: "i sincerely hope they feel that way".

While Imran has been kept out of action, his countrymen have lost the first Test against Australia and been saved by rain in the second. Zaheer Abbas has led the team in his absence.

● The Test umpire Dickie Bird has been invited to make up a four-man panel to officiate at the new Asia Cup tournament at Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates in March.

The tournament involves the full Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Indian Test teams and Bird will join representatives from each of the countries competing.

●Moratuwa, (AFP) – Zimbabwe made 133 for five in their second innings before rain halted play 150 minutes before the scheduled close on the third and final day of their drawn match against the Sri Lankan Board President's XI here yesterday.

ZIMBABWE: First innings 210 (K. M. Curran 63; J. Amerasinghe seven for 82).

Second Innings

A. Shah lbw b. Amerasinghe	23
T. Dunk c Sumathipala b Amerasinghe	2
R. Brown c Sub b R. De Silva	26
A. Pycroft not out	48
D Houghton c and b Amerasinghe	1
G. Patterson c Buultjens b R. De Silva	0
K. Curran not out	24
Extras (B-6 L-B 3)	9
Total (5 wkts)	133

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–26, 2–27, 3–60, 4–62, 5–65.

BOWLING: Ratnayake 9.4-1-30-0, G De Silva 3-2-2-0, Amerasinghe 25-7-48-3, R. De Silva 13-2-33-2, Daluperuma 6-1-11-0.

SRI LANKA: Board XI: First innings 146.

TENNIS

Miss Navratilova was in aggressive mood, on and off the court, in Australia yesterday.

The $6m woman marches on

Melbourne (Agencies) – Martina Navratilova, the No 1 seed, continued her relentless march towards her third successive Australian Open final when she swept aside her doubles partner Pamela Shriver, 6-4, 6-3 in yesterday's semi-final. Miss Navratilova will play the No 9 seed, Kathy Jordan, in Saturday's final.

Yesterday, Miss Jordan beat Zina Garrison, in the other all-American semi-final, 7-6, 6-1. It will be her first "grand slam" final.

Miss Navratilova has been beaten only once this year and though Miss Shriver tried to pressure her with a potent serve and volley attack, Miss Navratilova was always able to move into a higher gear. Two service breaks were enough for Miss Navratilova to achieve victory.

Miss Jordan will need all the tenacity she showed in her semi-final to beat Miss Navratilova. She was 5-2 down in the first set against Miss Garrison, but won 11 of the next 13 games to reach her second successive tournament final. She lost to Jo Durie of Britain, in the New South Wales Open two weeks ago.

Miss Navratilova was beaten here in the final last year, but she has been Australian champion four times. In 1979, Miss Jordan's elder sister Barbara, won this title, but Kathy has never beaten Miss Navratilova in their nine meetings.

Miss Navratilova, aged 27, has now ammassed career winnings of more than $6m – more than any other player, male or female. But she still feels that prize money should be higher. Yesterday, she said: "The prize money at Wimbledon and the US Open is pathetic.

Miss Navratilova said the players should band together to try to get more money and that more money should come back into the game. "I think we get $75,000 from the US Tennis Association for the improvement of women's tennis but we get nothing from Wimbledon or anybody else.

Miss Navratilova is chasing the third leg of the Grand Slam after winning Wimbledon and the US Open. If she wins the Australian title here and the 1984 French Open she will earn a special bonus of $1m. Only two other women have won four "grand slam" events in succession.

Ann Hobbs, of Britain, and Wendy Turnbull, of Australia, are through to the women's doubles semi-finals after beating Jo Durie and Ann Kiyomura in three sets.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Semi-finals (all US). M Navratilova bt P Shriver, 6–4, 6–3; K Jordan bt Z Garrison, 7–6, 6–1.
WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Quarter-finals. M Navratilova and P Shriver (US) bt R Fairbank (SA) and E Pfaff (WG), 6–3, 6–3; A Hobbs (GB) and W Turnbull (Aus) bt J Durie (GB) and A Kiyomura (US), 2–6, 6–2, 6–2.
MEN'S DOUBLES: Quarter-finals: M Edmondson and Paul McNamee (Aus) bt L Bourne and M Mitchell (US), 7–6, 6–4; S Stewart and S Denton (US) bt P Cash (Aus) and M Bauer (US), 7–6, 6–3; Tim and Tom Gullikson (US) bt J Nystroem and M Wilander (Swe), 4–6, 7–5, 6–4; D Graham and Laurie Warder (Aus) bt B Dyke and Rod Frawley (Aus), 6–7, 7–5, 6–3.

Wimbledon holds prices

There was good news for tennis fans yesterday when Wimbledon announced almost identical ticket prices for next year's championships from June 25-July 8. After making nearly £2¼m profit from this year's tennis festival – all of it handed over to the Lawn Tennis Association to promote the game in this country – Wimbledon have a virtual standstill in admission charges.

Of the 13 days of the championships, the only increase in centre court charges is on the first Sautrday when tickets are increased from £8 to £11. On the same day, seats in the number one court will cost £10 compared to last summer's £7. Partly to counter-balance this on the second Thursday, court one prices are £3 less – £7 instead of £10.

Turnstile admission goes up by £1 to £4 in the first week only – in the second week it costs £3 – and on the last four days, the reserved standing accommodation on the centre court will cost £5 instead of £4.

Tuesday July 3: Women's singles quarter-finals. Wednesday July 4: Men's singles quarter-finals: Thursday, July 5: Women's singles semi-finals, Men's doubles semi-finals: Friday, July 6: Men's singles semi-finals, women's doubles semi-finals: Saturday, July 7: women's singles final, men's doubles final, women's doubles final: Sunday, July 8: Men's singles final, mixed doubles final.

BOXING

Warren regroups his forces after third title setback

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Frank Warren, the promoter, is nothing if not an optimist after the whacks he has taken on the chin this year. Three of his star boxers, Roy Gumbs, Tony Willis and now Keith Wallace, have all hit the floor just when their stock was at its highest.

The hardest blow of all was the defeat of Wallace, ranked second in the world flyweight list. Warren was making plans for challenging Santos Laciar, of Argentina, in the new year, after Wallace's challenge for Antoine Montero's European title at the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel. But Montero, who many thought had come here to collect his biggest pay packet and leave his title behind, surprised the experts again by stopping Wallace in eight rounds.

Warren's only consolation was that this reverse was not, like the other two, at the hands of boxers with their feet firmly in the camp of his arch-rivals, Mike Barrett and Mickey Duff. Yesterday, at his Bloomsbury office, Warren came up smiling, if you can call putting a brave face on it smiling. Who wouldn't after just seeing Marlene Bugner looking not one but two million dollars? One of these days, Warren said, he would come up trumps too.

Warren said that he was regrouping his forces and that 1984 would be his year. The men boxing for him would be David Pearce, Wales's British heavyweight champion, Noel Quarless, and three leading middleweights – Jimmy Price, Roy Gumbs and Errol Christie. And, yes, Joe Bugner, too. But there was a jumbo-sized question mark over big Joe, he said. Everything depended on settling his legal obligations to Melody, his first wife, and clearing himself of contempt of court. "As his manager I must do my best for him", Warren said. With a bit of luck Bugner could be back in the ring by February.

In a way more confounding than Bugner's problems is Wallace's defeat. On Wednesday night we saw only a quarter of the Wallace who had accounted for Henry Brent, Juan Diaz and other good opposition without stretching himself. Yet here he was, against the unranked Montero, unable to prise open his tight defence. It was like a diver trying to open a giant clam and running out of air. That is exactly what happened. A left hook to the ribs in the eighth round knocked the breath out of the Liverpool lad. An uppercut finished him off.

Warren denies that Wallace's reticence in the ring had anything to do with an inability to make the weight.

Wallace will box again in February and it is unlikely that, if the French want to offer a return, Warren will take it until after the February bout. Warren puts Wallace's poor showing down to personal worries. "It is just like Coronation Street where Keith's family lives", Warren said. "After the death of his father, who was very close to him, he finds that he is the bread-winner".

It seems that all the pressure was on Wallace and it proved too much.

Graham's title on the line

Saint Nazaire, France, (Reuter) – Herol Graham, the British light-middleweight boxer who is unbeaten in 25 bouts, puts his European crown on the line in this western French port tonight against a local veteran, Germaine le Maitre.

Graham, aged 24, from Sheffield, is so confident of keeping his title that he was happy to come to Le Maitre's home town to defend it.

Le Maitre, aged 36, a wily boxer who dominated the French light-middleweight scene in the mid-seventies, retired in 1975 but staged a comeback in 1981.

Graham disposed of Belgian-based Clemente Tshinza in two rounds when he won the title on May 23 in Sheffield and in his only fight since then knocked out Puerto Rican Carlos Betancourt inside a round.

BADMINTON

Mrs Gilks aims for record

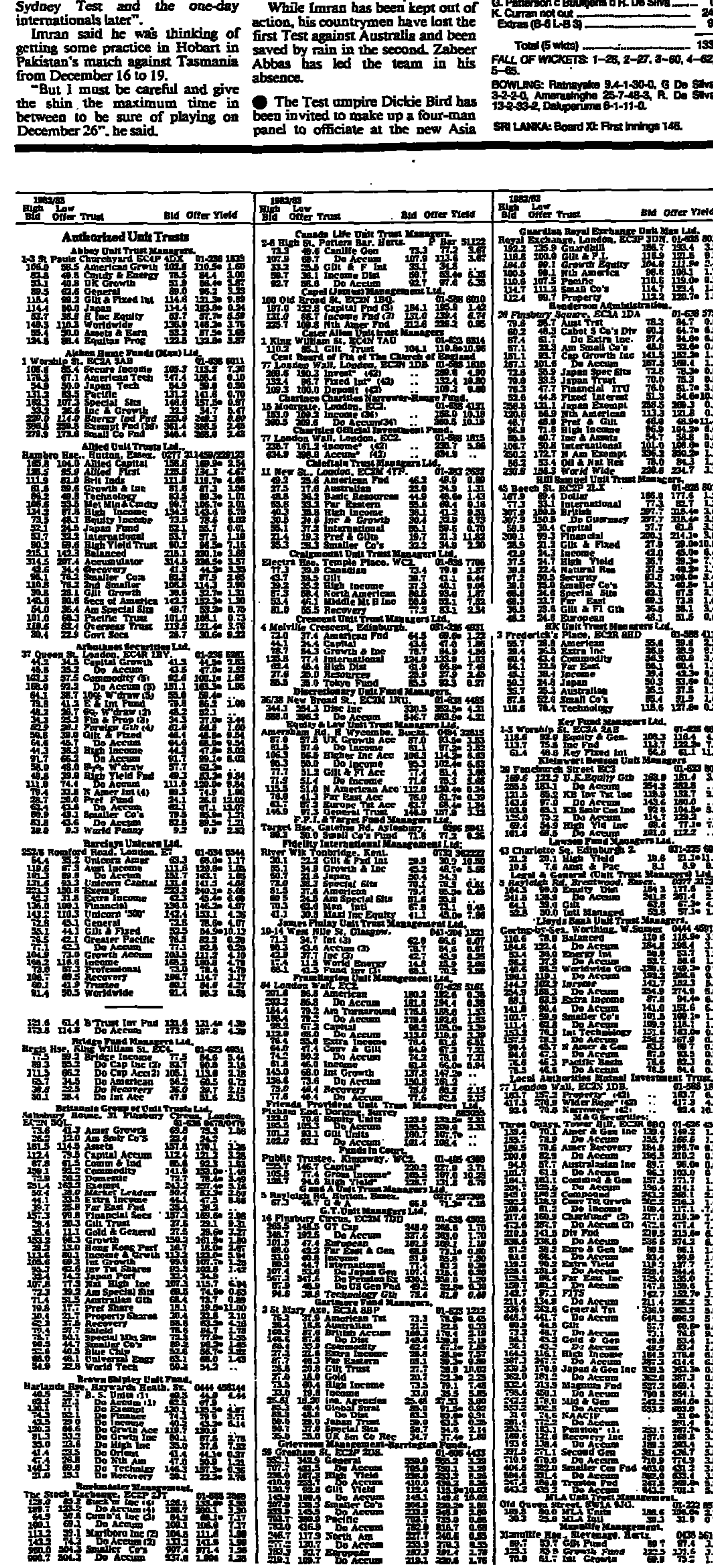
The favourites for this year's English national championships, sponsored by Yonex, at Coventry, and starting today, provide an unexpected and curious contrast Richard Eaton writes). Gillian Gilks will be attempting to regain the women's singles title and take it for a record ninth time; Steve Butler will be trying to win the man's for the first time.

Mrs Gilks is 33 and in the later stages of a famous, occasionally notorious, career. Butler is 20 and trying to make an important breakthrough in front of his home crowd. Both are lucky to be top seeds.

This is because yesterday England's four best women and two best men flew to Jakarta to take part in the finals of the Pro-Kennex international grand prix on Wednesday. Moves apparently, are afoot to see that such a clash of dates does not happen again.

It means that Mrs Gilks, who has played only a handful of singles all season, is able to have one, last, realistic chance. Last year she took a similar risk in the national singles and pulled a muscle. This time she has her own physio therapist standing by.

Butler's chances are further enhanced by the ankle injury to Kevin Jolly, the holder.



Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

FOOTBALL: BLOWING THE TRUMPET IN EUROPEAN COMPETITION

Three English teams threaten to extend dominance over Channel

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The three English clubs who are creating an unofficial "super league" of their own threaten to extend their rule across the Channel. Liverpool, Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur hold between them an irresistible claim to this season's domestic crown and each of them stands third in line to a European throne.

Liverpool will take with them their awesome simplicity, United their thrilling unpredictability, and Tottenham their maturing confidence into today's three quarter-final draws. With Nottingham Forest winning unexpectedly 2-1 at Celtic and joining Tottenham in the last eight in the UEFA Cup, England will be the only nation with four representatives.

Nor is that the only reason to blow the patriotic trumpet. On Wednesday night England increased their lead over West Germany at the top of Europe's overall table and Tottenham climbed to the head of the individual list. Their defeat of Bayern Munich raised their unofficial average points total – on the basis fo two for a win – to 1.438 from 73 ties in European competitions.

A year ago Keith Burkinshaw stood at Munich airport, having seen his side lose their way in the fog and go down 4-1. Then he bemoaned England's general lack of technique. Now he has changed his tune. Having watched his team gain ample revenge in their 2-0 win, he suggested that foreign opponents can be too sophisticated.

Burkinshaw, feeling that Bayern were sucked deep into their own strategic caution, wondered "what might have happened if they had come at us." Yet Tottenham scarcely gave them an opportunity. They overpowered the modern approach, sweeper and all, with old fashioned methods and threw in two uninhibited 18-year-old wingers to play with an abandon that was as fresh as youth itself.

As Watford learnt from their 4-0 defeat by Sparta in Prague, such innocent enthusiasm must be added to the refined experience of a Perryman, the raw determination of a Roberts, the eager opportunism of an Archibald, and, most of all, the rare gifts of a Hoddle. Yet that recipe is imperfect without the ingredient of consistency.

Tottenham are threatening to find it even without the assistance of Ardiles, who sat in the wings on Wednesday, Galvin and Mabbutt. By the time those three internationals return and settle into their accustomed roles, White Hart Lane may be preparing to stage their quarter-final tie in March.

The Austrians, also with two survivors in the UEFA Cup field, are clearly likely opponents. Since the other qualifiers are Anderlecht, the holders, Spartak Moscow, impressive conquerors of Aston Villa in the previous round, Sparta Prague and Hajduk Split, they are probably the most welcome as well.

Tottenham and Forest will, above all, want to avoid each other. Only one point separates them in the first division and Brian Clough has a formidable reputation for extracting more from his side than even they knew existed. Celtic can confirm that.

Europe's leaders

	P	W	D	L	Pts	Av
Tottenham	73	47	11	15	105	1.438
Borussia MG	93	57	19	17	133	1.430
Liverpool	125	74	24	28	172	1.376
Leeds	91	50	24	17	124	1.362
Dynamo Kiev	75	43	15	16	102	1.360
Ipswich Town	50	29	9	12	67	1.340
Manchester U	74	41	17	16	99	1.338
Bayern Munich	123	67	29	28	163	1.325
Real Madrid	177	102	29	46	233	1.316
Leading countries						
England	865	486	185	214	1113	1.286
W Germany	874	456	162	256	1074	1.228

● Tables devised by World Soccer.

Maxwell gets an apology and a second replay at Oxford

The Oxford United chairman, Robert Maxwell, won the right to stage the Milk Cup fourth round, second replay against Manchester United, at Oxford after winning the toss of a coin yesterday. The clubs, who drew 1-1 at Old Trafford on Wednesday had to call in the Football League when they could not agree on a venue for the third match, which is to take place on Monday, December 19.

But Mr Maxwell was angry that the toss, conducted by a League spokesman on the telephone, had to take place yesterday. He had wanted to settle the issue immediately after Wednesday's game, but claimed that the Manchester United manager, Ron Atkinson, and their chairman, Martin Edwards, had refused.

Mr Maxwell, said yesterday: "They were insisting the match should be at Old Trafford or at a neutral ground. It caused unnecessary difficulties and confusion. I protested to the League, and they and Mr Edwards have appologized to me for the misunderstanding."

● Tony Morley, the Aston Villa and England winger, yesterday completed his £70,000 move to West Bromwich Albion.

Sunderland's central defender, Hindmarch, has joined Portsmouth on a month's loan, with a view to a £60,000 transfer. He has struggled to win a regular place for the last two seasons.

Morley: Move completed

Southend United have signed the former England forward, Whymark, who was transfer listed by Grimsby Town. He had talks with Colchester United, too but Southend had already agreed a fee of about £10,000.

Brentford have agreed terms with Watford for the transfer of the central defender, Bolton. He will make his first appearance for them at Walsall tomorrow week.

● Derby city council, at a special meeting yesterday, decided to take no action on a request for help from Derby County.

Four other local authorities had already decided they could not help.

● Hull City are to make a two-week tour of the United States next May. They will play Tampa Bay Rowdies and Fort Lauderdale Strikers and hope to arrange a game against the American national side in Miami.



Bargaining ahead for Robson

Bobby Robson has two weeks to prepare for the hard bargaining that will take place when England and their World Cup opponents hammer out arrangements for their qualifying matches.

Representatives from Northern Ireland, Romania, Turkey and Finland meet Robson and Ted Crocker, secretary of the Football Association, in London on December 22 to sort out dates for the group three fixtures.

"It's too early to say how I would like to play it", said Robson. "But I will look at all the alternatives very carefully before making up my mind."

Concessions will have to be made to the other countries, but England will want to avoid starting their campaign with a tricky away match in Turkey or Romania.

England's first qualifying match is likely to be in September, a time when they rarely produce good performances. Two matches could be played as part of a summer tour in 1985.

The FA will ask the Football League for free weekends before every qualifying match, but Croker said: "If there was a bad winter and a back-log of fixtures, it would be difficult to postpone any more Saturday programmes."

In the meantime, next summer's trip to Brazil looks certain to go ahead. The Brazilians are ready to stage their 70th anniversary tournament at the same time as the European Championship finals, so England hope to travel soon after the friendly against Russia at Wembley on June 2. Argentina and Uruguay are certain to take part in the tournament, which is also likely to include Mexico and Spain.

● Velimir Zajec, the experienced Dynamo Zagreb sweeper, will not play for Yugoslavia in their crucial European Championship qualifying match against Wales in Cardiff next Wednesday, because of illness. Zajec is one of the most experienced Yugoslav internationals and is one of the few players remaining from the 1982 World Cup squad. Yugoslavia need at least a draw against Wales to have a chance of reaching the 1984 finals in France.

● The Oceania qualify group will be played entirely in Australia and New Zealand. Taiwan and Israel are the other countries in the group.

● A decision on whether England, Italy, Greece or the Soviet Union will host the 1990 World Cup will not be made until May at the earliest, João Havelange, President of the International Federation of Football Associations (FIFA), said yesterday. Havelange said applications from the four contenders were being examined by a sub-committee who would probably visit the four countries.

Wednesday's results

UEFA CUP: Third round, second leg: Sparta Prague 4, Watford 0 (agg 7-2); Tottenham Hotspur 2, Bayern Munich 0 (agg 2-1); Celtic 1, Nottingham Forest 2 (agg 1-2).
Other results: Lokomotiv Leipzig 1, Sturm Graz 0 (agg 1-2); Hajduk Split 2, Radnicki Nis 0 (agg 4-0); Spartak Moscow 2, Sparta Rotterdam 0 (agg 3-1); Inter Milan 1, Austria Vienna 1 (agg 2-3).
MILK CUP: Fourth round replay: Manchester United 1, Oxford United 1 (aet; score after 90 min 1-1; replay December 19 at Oxford; winners at home to Everton).



Trevor Frances, the Sampdoria and England forward (above), may require surgery on an inflamed tendon in his left leg (AP reports from Genoa). Francis has been out of action for three weeks with the injury which has been slow to respond to treatment. Despite his absence, Sampdoria have won their last five league matches and are only one point behind Juventus, the leaders. Francis also missed much of last season with a thigh strain.

The Star that burns brightly could lead Arbroath astray

On September 5, 1885, Arbroath set what is still, and is always likely to be a British goal scoring record in a first class match when they beat the long since dead and buried Bon Accord 36-0 in a Scottish Cup first round tie. On Saturday Arbroath will meet opponents of similar status, although not, they fear, comparable defensive weakness. To the contrary, and to paraphrase their own nickname, there is a "red Lichtie" on the horizon.

Outside south west Scotland the name Dalbeattie Star is scarcely better known than that of Bon Accord, perhaps even less so in view of the Aberdeen club's unfortunate claim to fame. the village is not exactly on the beaten track, tucked away 14 miles west of Dumfries near the Solway coast. Here 3,000 fold go quietly about their affairs in a farming-based economy.

It is a football area, but most who like the game travel to Dumfries to watch the presently successful Queen of the South. Only .75 or so stay behind to support Dalbeattie Star in the south of Scotland league against such equally little known opponents as Threave Rovers and Creetown, although 1500 are expected tomorrow.

The nearest the faithful get to seeing League footballers is when Stranraer Reserves are the visitors ot Islecroft stadium. Consider that Stranraer's first team won seven league matches out of 39 and finished at the foot of the second division eight points adrift in 1982 and you have some idea of the standard at non-league level in this part of the world.

Arbroath missed promotion on goal difference because their defence was generous away from home. The tendency is still there with only four wins in nine matches this season, and it is a point Dalbeattie has noted. They know that despite the astonishing success of a Highland minnow, Brora Rangers, who put Montrose out of the cup last season 5–2 after two draws, they must win first time.

That is asking a lot of a club which is still trying to convince some locals that it is not just a pub team. "The reason is that when we reformed in 1976 the planning was done in a pub, and we gathered. our first set of players together from teams linked to hotels and public houses", Bob Geddes, the secretary and a local photo-journalist, explained. "We still hold committee meetings in a hotel because there are no facilities at the stadium."

Arbroath should not be misled by the term Islecroft. The club is reached after negotiating a number of disorientating lanes. The pitch is large and in good condition.

The stand is neither. Some years ago it was dismantled and hauled piece by piece from another part of the pitch. to be reassembled for Star's use. It holds about 250. There is a dressing room for each team and one for the refereed and linesmen. "There are showers," Mr Geddes said gravely.

Jim Black, a petrol tanker driver and chairman, sits on hard benches with the rest of the directors, that is when he is not shouting advice from the touchline.

"We are very much an amateur club," Mr Geddes said. "We did try being a professional one for a season, but I think the lads played worse when they were paid."

The club can trace its origins back to the 1890s when it began life as the equivalent of a Territorial Army team. The name Dalbeattie Star was adopted after World War I and the best years were during the 1930s. In that period Scottish Cup ties were played against Celtic, St Mirren, Falkirk, Partick Thistle and Queen's Park. The farthest they got was the second round. That was in 1930 when they lost to Partick Thistle.

After World War II the Star played three seasons and then closed because of lack of local interest. It was resurrected and admitted to the SFA in 1976.

The old colours, red and black hoops are to be worn again after 28 years. "Only they are actually red and black stripes because we couldn't get jerseys with hoops" Mr Geddes said. Horizontal or vertical, they will be seen tomorrow in a Scottish Cup tie in Dalbeattie for the first time since that famous day when seven men faced Queen's Park in 1937.

Iain Mackenzie

Army trainer keeps Royalists in step

By Paul Newman

FA CUP

Windor and Eton may not be the most accomplished team playing in the second round of the FA Cup tomorrow, but they are certain to be one of the best disciplined. the Isthmian League club's coach is Alf Coulton, who also trains the Army and Combined Services sides.

Geoff Chapple, the manager of Windsor and Eton, who are at home to Bournemouth, said: "Alf's a really strict disciplinarian. Once or twice in training players have mucked around a bit and Alf has sent them straight back to the dressing room. He did the same when there was a flare-up between two of the lads. But Alf always tells them they can come back if they say they're sorry – and they usually do."

Coulton and Chapple, who played alongside several of the present tem before a broken leg ended his playing career, are obviously an effective combination. Windsor and Eton have won 13 and drawn one of their last 14 games and are on course to complete a period of remarkable progress by earning promotion to the premier division of the Isthmiam League. Two years ago they won promotion from the Athenian League and last season they gained promotion from the Isthmian second division.

Until 1980 the club had reached the first round of the Cup only once in their 81-year history, in 1925, but they have reached that stage three times in the last four seasons. On the two previous occasions they lost 7-2 to Wimbledon and 7-0 to Brentford; this year they won 2-1 away to Burton Albion.

The club are nicknamed the Royalists. Their Stag Meadow ground is on Crown land inside Windsor Great Park, within a mile of Windsor Castle. The Duke of Edinburgh, their patron, has watched matches from the directors' box inside the 250-seat grandstand, although he has turned down an invitation to tomorrow's match because of other commitments.

Windsor and Eton's league attendances rarely exceed 300 and in modern times no competitive match there has been attended by more than 1,500 people. In last year's first round they sacrificed home advantage against Brentford, but the police have given approval for them to stage tomorrow's match. The game is all-ticket, with a limit of 4,350.

It will probably be the most important match in which any of the Windsor and Eton team have played. Before joining the club most of them had never had any experience above Athenian League level and none have played in the Football League. Chapple, the manager, himself spent three years trying unsuccessfully to break into Aldershot's first team from their reserve side. He then played for Woking, Guildford City and Alton Town.

The club's leading scorer is Chris Yates, who has 15 goals to his credit this season. He is joined in attack by Ross McCulloch, the brother of Crystal Palace's Andy. McCulloch is currently keeping out of the side Dave Lansey, who has scored seven of Windsor and Eton's 16 goals in the Cup this season.

Mann fills in at Boston

Arthur Mann, the former Notts County player, has been appointed caretaker player-manager of Boston United until the end of the season (Paul Newman writes). John Froggatt resigned as manager of the Alliance Premier League club last week because of business commitments outside football. He had been in the job for two and a half years. Mann joined Boston as player nearly 18 months ago, but at the end of last season he left for Kettering Town. He returned to Boston after Don Masson's recent dismissal as manager of Kettering.

● Tooting and Mitcham have dismissed John Biddle, their manager, who took over from Dave Cook at the start of the season. Tooting have slipped down the Isthmian League premier division table in recent weeks and are now near the relegation zone.

Welsh students on brink of acceptance

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The constitution of the proposed Welsh student's body will go before the general purposes committee of the Welsh Rugby Union next week, seeking the seal of approval which will give them official status. The sudent officials, helped by WRU officers, have spent much of the last year putting the finishing touches to their constitution and they hope to see it dispatched for final approval at the WRU general committee meeting in January.

"The welsh Rugby Union are most sympathetic towards their aspirations," Brian Kempson, the assistant WRU secretary, said yesterday. Even if the constitution is referred back for amendment, it seems only a question of time before the students win associate membership of the WRU.

In practical terms this will not alter their present condition greatly, though they would be permitted to apply for grants towards, for example, their administration. But they would be able to field an official national side, with the recognition that would imply for the students involved, be they from universities, polytechnics or institutes of higher education.

Two fixtures are planned for the second half of the season, the first against the French students on Feburary 17, the eve of the Wales v France international. The venue has yet to be finalized but it is likely to be in Swansea. The second student international will be away to England on April 13.

In the meantime a Welsh universities side will make its first appearance of the season next Thursday against London University at Motspur Park. The universities have further fixtures against Scottish universities on January 20 and English universities on March 16, both games taking place the day before international championship matches.

The side that plays in London next week includes four players with first class experience: Julian Robinson, at centre, has played for Newport; Anthony Jones, the scrum half, for Aberavon; Mark Robers, the hooker, for Abertillery. Greg Thomas, the other centre, has played for Swansea but may have to withdraw with a hamstring injury.

He was not available on Wednesday when Swansea University won their challenge round game with Lancaster in the UAU competition 32-0. Together with Cardiff, who beat Leeds 11-6, they will play in the quarter finals of the competition on January 25. Swansea will entertain Umist and Cardiff must travel to Leicester. The other two games will see Durham, the holders, play either Loughborough or Manchester – their game on Wednesday was postponed – while Exeter, runners-up last season, are home to Nottingham.

The challenge round of the Polytechnic Cup, however, did not bring such happy news to the principality. Polytechnic of Wales, from Pontypridd, holders of the trophy for the last four years and runners-up in 1978, were beaten 9-6 by Kingston who now go forward to the quarter finals.

The Welsh side were without three of their most experienced players although they did have at lock Terry Shaw, newly capped by Wales against Romania last month. There was some consolation this week, however, from the appearance at Twickenham of Andy Martin, a former Polytechnic of Wales student, who won his Blue for Cambridge University and scored a try in the win over Oxford.

WELSH UNIVERSITIES (to play London University, December 15): N Clinch (Aberystwyth); N Cleary (Uwist), G Thomas (Swansea), J Robinson (Cardiff), E Ellis (Aberystwyth); P Thorburn (Swansea), A Jones (Swansea); J Rowlands (Swansea), M Roberts (Swansea), J Jefficoate (Bangor), D Gurnette (Bangor), H Nichol (Swansea), S Rodliffe (Swansea), A Side (Uwist), A Thomas (Swansea).

MacNeill in doubt for Irish trial

By David Hands

Hugo MacNeill has been selected for the senior side in Ireland's trial on December 17, but there must be considerable doubt whether he will play. MacNeill led Oxford University against Cambridge at Twickenham on Tuesday, his right knee heavily strapped after damage to the medial ligaments sustained last month, and his movement was obviously inhibited.

The Irish selectors have given the bulk of the team who have done so well in the last two championships the chance to defend their places, even though many of them have played only a handful of games this season. Campbell, laid low recently by a virus infection, plays his first senior game for Old Belvedere tomorrow, and such as Slattery, Keane and Duggan have been irregular participants.

McLoughlin, the Shannon tight-head prop, is under suspension until Christmas and misses the trial altogether, his place in the Probables going to McCoy, a 17st Ulsterman who played for the B side against England last season but was overlooked against Scotland last Saturday.

Areas at which the selectors may be looking particularly keenly include the left wing, where Finn is challenged by another Ulsterman, Crossman, who has shown a rare form this season; tight head prop, where McCoy and Fitzpatrick are contesting the vacancy; and blind-side flanker, where Kearney, of Leinster, has been consistent and should bring the best out of the British Lion, O'Driscoll.

Finn: challenged

Should MacNeill be forced to withdraw, the Possibles full back and another impressive performer for Leinster (winners of this season's inter-provincial championship), will move up, which would leave room for Palmer, the B international from Collegians or Barry (Cork Constitution).

PROBABLES: H P MacNeill (Oxford University); T M Ringland (Ballymena), D G Irwin (Instonians), M Kiernan (Lansdowne), M C Finn (Cork Constitution); S O Campbell (Old Belvedere), R J M McGrath (Wanderers); P A Orr (Old Wesley), C F Fitzgerald (St Mary's, captain); J McCoy (Dungannon), J B O'Driscoll (London Irish), M I Keane (Lansdowne), D G Lenihan (Cork Constitution), J F Slattery (Blackrock), W J Duggan (Blackrock).

POSSIBLES: J Murphy (Greystones); J McGeady (Lansdowne), B Mullin (Dublin University), R Moroney (Lansdowne), K D Crossan (Instonians); A J Ward (St Mary's), A Doyle (Greystones); J Langbroek (Blackrock), H T Harrison (Bective Rangers), M P Fitzpatrick (Wanderers, captain); R Kearney (Wanderers), J Glannon (Skerries), B McColl (London Irish), D McGrath (University College, Dublin), D Spring (Bagnères).

West Park a dedicated nursery of the game

Schools Rugby by Michael Stevenson

Solace for suffering coaches can come from strange quarters. St Peter's York have experienced an indifferent season but all concerned with the school's rugby must have cheered by the sight of two old Peterites, Gargan and Ellison, contending in the No 8 position in this week's University match.

Bradford Grammar School have been more successful but their record has not been so brilliant that they could do other than rejoice at the presence of three Bradfordians in the Oxford side in a match graced by the precocious skill of a young man from a relatively unfashionable school. Kevin Simms, whose brother is playing for West Park Grammer School and Lancashire 18 group with distinction this winter, was the outstanding player on the field and it will be a surprise if his career does not carry him to the hights.

West Park have had a wonderful season and deserve to be recognized as the efficient, dedicated and imaginative rugby nursery they undoubtedly are; this winter their record reads played 17, won 17. Their latest victims, Rydal, were leading well into the second half, but class and fitness proved decisive.

West Park have been extended by CSS Locomotiva from Bucharest (19-11), Bradford GS (19-16), and Castleknock College from Dublin (21-17). Next Wednesday they meet the unbeaten Winstanley College side under the Orrell floodlights (7.15). Connoisseurs of rugby may like to enter this encounter in their diaries.

A bonus to West Park has been the return, as a third-year sixth-former, of their able full back, Platt, who has 94 points to his credit at the time of writing. Atherton, on the wing, has been equally impressive in general play, apart from his remarkable tally of 22 tries.

It would be interesting to know how often an entire front row manages to figure among the scorers. This occurred in Christ College, Brecon's victory over Plymouth College by 24-12. The props, Parry and Maggs (the latter a Welsh 18 group player), contributed to this scoreline, as did the hooker, Lewis. Christ College have won five and lost five this season and have one match to play.

In the south-west Blundell's have enjoyed an excellent season. They have played 15 matches, won 12, lost one, and drawn two (including the only match Dulwich have drawn), and have scored 409 points to 94. A relatively vulnerable pack have high class backs behind them.

SQUASH RACKETS

Absence of top players dilutes championships

By Rex Bellamy

Three leading players will be missing when Britain's national championships begin today at Abbeydale Park, Sheffield. Hidayat Jiban, who would have been top seed in the men's event, did not become a British citizen until July and for this and other reasons decided it would be indiscreet to enter. Alison Cumings, the holder of the women's title, and Nicola Spurgeon, who had been seeded eighth, are out of action with foot injuries.

These deficiencies are particularly unfortunate because this is a special year for the championships. For the first time the men's and women's events are being combined in one tournament with the backing of a single sponsor, Just Juice, who have supported the women's championship for five years.

This will also be the first time the women's title has been decided at Abbeydale Park, where Thorntons the confectioners, have been uncommonly enthusiastic and enlightened in sponsoring men's tournaments at three different levels for nine years. That is a long time to maintain sponsorship and the withdrawal of Thorntons was therefore no surprise. But theirs will be a hard act to follow.

The men's event replaced the defunct British amateur championship in 1979 and has always been played in the congenial environment of Abbeydale. The winners have been Gawain Briars (twice), Jonah Barrington and Phillip Kenyon. In the 1981 final Kenyon beat Briars in straight games but last year Briars did the same to him: and with less difficulty. It would be unreasonable to suggest that anyone else has much of a chance.

In the absence of Miss Cumings, who unexpectedly beat her last year, Lisa Opie, must be strongly favoured to regain the women's title which she won in 1981. the form of the second seed, Martine le Moignan (born in Guernsey, as Miss Opie was), cannot be predicted. Runner-up in 1980 and 1982, Miss le Moignan has recently recovered from a pulled hamstring and has also needed treatment to a troublesome back. She is short of competition but mentally fresh.

In the semi-final round Miss le Moignan should be severely tested by Angela Smith, nine years her senior, who was champion in 1976 and has been runner-up three times. In the other half of the draw Miss Opie must be particularly wary of Heather Wallace and Ruth Strauss. It seems likely though, that the final will be contested by two players whose primary education in squash was based on a tomato-rich island off the coast of France. An island so small that its inhabitants say they are "Ten minutes from anywhere".

HOCKEY: Two uncapped players, Andy Halliday and Colin Bradbury, have been included in the England indoor squad for the home internationals in Edinburgh from January 7-8. Because of fitness doubts over John Hurst, Bal Saini and Paul Giles, 15 players have been named.

FOR THE RECORD

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: St Louis Blues 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 3; New York Rangers 7, Washington Capitals 5; Chicago Black Hawks 4, Buffalo Sabres 2; Minnesota North Stars 7, Detroit Red Wings 2; New Jersey Devils 5; Winnipeg Jets 3; Edmonton Oilers 5, Vancouver Canucks 4; New York Islanders 4, Los Angeles Kings 4.

GYMNASTICS

TOKYO: Men: Floor: 1, V Mogulny (USSR), K Sotomura (Jap) 9.85; Pommel Horse: 1, G Guczoghy (Hun) 9.80; Rings: 1, P Vidmar (US) K Sotomura (Jap) 9.70; Vault: 1, M Watanabe (Jap) 9.650; Parallel Bars: 1, V Artemov (USSR) 9.80; Horizontal Bar: 1, Z Limin (China) 9.80. Women: Vault: 1, M L Rettun (US) 9.725; Uneven Bars: 1, M Gnauk (EG) 9.90; Beam: 1, E Shushunova (USSR) 9.30; Floor: 1, M Gnauk (EG) 9.85.

ICE SKATING

SAPPORO: World junior championships: Boys: Free Skating: 1, V Petrenko (USSR) 13, 73.6; Final standings: 1, Petrenko 3.2 (1.8, 0.4, 1.0); 14, L Yip (GB) 30.0 (10.2, 4.8, 15.0); 16, S Abrams (GB) 31.4 (9.0, 6.4, 16.0). Girls: Compulsory figures: 1, G Stefani (Austria); Ice dance original set pattern: 1, E Krykanova and E Platov (USSR) 10, 95.2. Standings: 1, E Krykanova and E Platov (USSR) 1.0, (0.6, 0.4).

CURLING

VAESTERAAS, Sweden: European championships: Men: Group A: Denmark 6, Italy 3; Wales 7, England 6; Scotland 8, Sweden 3; Scotland 8, England 2; Wales 4, France 3; Sweden 8, Denmark 3. Group B: West Germany 5, Netherlands 3; Luxembourg 9, Finland 6; Switzerland 8, Austria 3; Switzerland 7, Netherlands 4; West Germany 13, Austria 2; Norway 12, Luxembourg 1. Women: Group C: Austria 8, Wales 5; Norway 8, West Germany 5; France 10, Luxembourg 3; Sweden 4, West Germany 3; France 7, Austria 6; Wales 8, Luxembourg 6. Group D: Netherlands 9, Italy 8; Switzerland 18, England 5; Denmark 10, Finland 8; Scotland 12, England 2; Switzerland 8, Netherlands 5; Denmark 11, Italy 1.

BADMINTON

CALCUTTA: Asian championships: Finals: Men: Chen Chang Jie (China) bt E Kurniawan (Indonesia) 11-15, 15-6, 18-15. Women: Yoo Sang-Hee (S Korea) bt Kim Yun-Ja (S Korea) 11-6, 11-2.

FOOTBALL

PORTO: Portuguese Super Cup: First leg: FC Porto 0, Benfica 0.

IN BRIEF

Bembridge shares lead after a flying start

Maurice Bembridge, of Britain, scored five birdies over the first seven holes to share the first round lead in the New Zealand PGA golf tournament in Tauranga yesterday. His five-under-par 67 was later equalled by Richard Coombes, of New Zealand.

Bembridge slumped with twr strokes over par on the ninth hole but picked up three more birdies on the back nine.

LEADING SCORES: 1st rd: 67: M Bembridge (Eng), R Coombes (NZ); 68: S Owen (NZ), B Murray (US); 69: V Somers (Aust), I Baker-Finch (Aust); 70: G Marsh (Aust), B Charles (NZ), B Vivian (NZ), K Southerden (NZ).

MOTOR RACING: Formula 3000, a stepping stone towards grand prix racing, will start in Europe next year, the International Auto Sport Federation (FISA) said yesterday. The Formula, devised by Bernard Ecclestone, president of the Formula One Constructors' Association, will use the outdated Formula One engines, restricted to 400hp.

EQUESTRIANISM: The European champion, Paul Schockemohle, of West Germany, has withdrawn from next week's Olympia International championships because of business commitments. Hugo Simon, from Austria, also misses the chance to compete for the show's £62,000 prize money. Their places among the 11 overseas riders go to Eric Wauters, of Belgium, and Austrian Thomas Fruhmann.

CYCLING: The annual York Festival is to be reorganized in 1984, with a mass ride from London on June 16 arriving at York the next day before the start of a new professional race (John Wilcockson writes). The Elswick-Falcon Trophy Race, to be contested by British and European professionals, will be held on a 1.1 kilometre circuit beside York Minster.

ATHLETICS: Steve Ovett, Steve Cram, David Moorcroft and Peter Elliott will open Olympic year racing and training in Australia and New Zealand.

Cram, the world 1500 metres champion, will race in Canberra on January 18, Sydney on January 22 and in Hamilton and Auckland in New Zealand on January 26 and 28.

Ovett, the world 1500 metres record holder, intends to compete in the Australian championship in Melbourne from March 29 to April 1.

JUDO: British world champions, Loretta Doyle (52kgs) and Karen Briggs (48kgs), will compete along with 132 other women from 25 countries in the first Fukuoka international women's tournament in Tokyo on Saturday and Sunday.

Today's fixtures

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
Division four
Halifax Town v Chester
FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Blackpool v Bolton . Wanderers. Replay: Portsmouth v Torquay United.

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: English national championships (Coventry)
RACKETS: Celestion Loudspeakers invitation singles (Eton College and Clifton College).
REAL TENNIS: British invitation mixed doubles (Hampton Court).
SQUASH RACKETS: British closed championships (Abbeydale Park, Sheffield).

HOCKEY

Midlands top county game at Abbey Park

By Joyce Whitehead

The last batch of county championship matches prior to the tournaments immediately after Christmas will be played tomorrow. The four eastern counties still to play have each won one match so the pressure will be on at Essex University, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, when Hertfordshire play Essex at 1.0 and Suffolk meet Kent at 2.15.

In the Midlands, Bedfordshire, Derbyshire, Northamptonshire, Warwickshire and Worcestershire will have played four times after tomorrow and Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire will have had three games.

Warwickshire have five points and the key match will be their encounter with Leicestershire, in Abbey Park, Leicester. The result of this game could well be a pointer to the Midlands top county.

Staffordshire who floundered against Warwickshire with whom they drew one-all meet Derbyshire at Ilkeston and could well end with five points for three matches.

On the Polytechnic Ground at Chiswick Middlesex play Sussex, who this time will be at full strength with the return of their two Welsh players and will be more than anxious to make up for their 1-8 catastrophe against Surrey in their last match.

This weekend 30 young players from the Southern counties, will play in trials at the Crystal Palace for the final squad of 14 to play in the National Junior territorial tournament in February.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Jasiewicz is called up

By Keith Macklin

Dick Jasiewicz, a Yorkshireman of central European lineage, wins a surprise place in the Great Britain squad to prepare for the international game with France at Avigon on January 29.

Jasiewicz, a Drewsbury man, joined Bradford from junior rugby league three years ago shortly after his twentieth birthday, and fought his way through to a regular first team place as a strong-running, try-scoring second row forward. David Hobbs, who scored a memorable try for Featherstone Rovers at Wembley last May, is also in a squad which is a mixture of tried and trusted international players and promising youngsters like Foy, Hanley, Myler, Cairns, Noble, Worral and Goodway.

SQUAD: M Burke (Widnes), G Fairbairn (Hull KR), J Basnett (Widnes), G Clark (Hull KR), D Drummond (Leigh), R Duane (Warrington), M Foy (Oldham), E Hanley (Bradford Northern), T Myler (Widnes), D Cairns (Barrow), A Gregory (Widnes), K Rayne (Leeds), T Skerrett (Hull), B Noble (Bradford Northern), D Watkinson (Hull KR), L Crooks (Hull), A Goodway (Oldham), M Worrall (Oldham), D Hobbs (Featherstone), D Jasiewicz (Bradford Northern), M Crane (Hull).

● Sydney (Reuter) – Great Britain will have a demanding fixture against North Sydney 10 days before the first international on their tour of Australia next year.

Ken Arthurson, the secretary of the Australian Rugby League, said yesterday that the English Rugby League had made a written request for some stiff opposition in the build-up to the first Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground on June 9.

TOUR SCHEDULE: May 20: v Darwin (Darwin); May 23: v Riverina (Wagga Wagga); May 27: v Western Division (Dubbo); May 30: v North Sydney (Sydney, night game); June 2: v Newcastle (Newcastle); June 9: v Australia, first Test (Sydney); June 12: v Wide Bay (Bundaberg); June 15: v Central Queensland (Rockhampton); June 17: v North Queensland (Townsville); June 19: v Toowoomba (Toowoomba); June 26: v Australia, second Test (Brisbane, night match); June 28: v Northern Rivers (Tweed Heads); July 1: v Northern Division (Tamworth); July 3: v North Coast (Wauchope); July 7: v Australia, third Test (Sydney).

● Bramley, whose fixtures have been suspended since October 16 because of doubts about the club's future, are expected to restart playing this month.

The Rugby League second division club, £120,000 in debt, were scheduled to be wound up yesterday but a new takeover offer by a consortium led by Ronnie Teeman, a Leeds solicitor, has revived hopes of a rescue act.

SKIING

Miss Walliser overcomes leg injury to triumph but faces uphill struggle

From John Hennessy, Val d'Isère

Irene Epple was right, then. She had said after her victory in the Premiere Neige downhill here on Wednesday that "tomorrow was another day." There was no cause to be starstruck. The German charmer, however, was succeeded by a Swiss of like character in Maria Walliser, the winner in brilliant sunshine, of yesterday's race, transferred from a virtually snow-less Sestriere.

Ther was so little between the tow that it was necessary to invade the hundredths of a second to etablish the difference. The German was 22/100ths behind Miss Walliser at the intermediate point and 8/100ths ahead over the second part of the course. The net result was that Miss Epple was 0.14 secs behind Miss Walliser's winning time of 1min 20.99secs with Lea Soelkner, of Austria, third in 1:21.27 and Gerry Sorens of Canada, only 3/100ths of a second further back.

With the retirement of Doris de Agostini, the overall winner for Switzerland in the downhill last season, Miss Walliser seems the obvious successor, for she was runner-up to her compatriot. But she refuses, sensibly, to regard herself as the Olympic favourite and thereby add her own pressures to those imposed by other people. She argues, indeed, that the Swiss team is still so strong, even in Miss de Agostini's absence, that she could well be beaten in her own national championship in February, never mind what might be happening in the great wide world outside.

Even so, Miss Walliser has established her authority, along with that of Miss Epple, against an unpromising background, having recovered from an injured right knee last year – after two World Cup victories at Megève and, significantly, Sarajevo – she cut open her left knee in training a month ago, reopened it later and spent the whole of last week in bed, hoping it would mend.

The knee impedes her training, for fear of reopening the injury, but at least when race day comes she is unaware of any impediment. Watching yesterday's race afterwards on a video, however, she realised she was nursing her left leg at crucial points on the course, a track of 2,200 metres long with a vertical drop of 620 metres at La Daille.

For the moment, Miss Epple seems to have the upper hand with one first place and one second, whereas Miss Walliser, notably less confident on Wednesday, finished eighth. It seems, though, that the Swiss, six years younger at 20, will have a decided edge when she has two fit legs.

The final training for today's men's downhill threw up an interesting possibilty for Steven Lee, of Australia, had the second best training time behind Todd Brooker, a Canadian favourite. Lee was tenth in the Hahnenkamm, at Kitzbühel. He might just take the Alps by storm as another Australian, Malcolm Milne, once did by winning here in 1969. It is a long shot but a fascinating one.

Results

1, M Walliser (Switz), 1min 20.99sec; 2, I Epple (WG), 1.21.3; 3, L Soelkner (Austria), 1.21.27; 4, G Sorensen (Can), 1.21.30; 5, A Ehrat (Switz), 1.21.56; 6, K Gutensohn (Austria), 1.21.74; 7, J Gantnerova-Soltysova (CZ), 1.21.77; 8, M Kiehl (WG), 1.21.87; 9, H Wenzel (Liech), 1.21.90; 10, V Vitzthum (Austria), 1.21.92; 11, E Hess (Switz), 1.22.01; 12, S Winkler (Austria), 1.22.02; 13, K Stemmle (Can), 1.22.08; 14, E Kirchler (Austria), 1.22.20; equal 15, S Eder (Austria), C Cooney (Fr), 1.22.32. British placing: 58, C Booth, 1.26.22.

OVERALL: 1, Epple, 45 pts; 2, Walliser, 38; 3, Ehrat, 31; 4, Hess, 30; 5, Soelkner, 27; equal 6, Gantnerova-Soltysova, T McKinney (US), 20.

NATIONS CUP: 1, Austria, 174 pts; 2, Switzerland, 155; 3, Liechtenstein, 67; 4, West Germany, 58; 5, Canada, 40; 6, United States, 37.



Airborne: Miss Walliser *en route* to victory

GOLF

Canada two shots ahead of United States

Jakarta, (Reuter) – Canada took a two-stroke lead over the United States as Dave Barr had the day's best score of six-under-par 66 in the opening round of the World Cup on the Pondok Indah Club course here yesterday. Barr's outstanding performance was backed up by a level-par 72 from Jerry Anderson.

Ian Woosnam, of Wales, started brilliantly with birdies at three of the first four holes and with an 18-foot putt at the third. But he dropped shots at both short holes and by the turn he was just one-under-par he finished with a 70. *Ronan Rafferty*, at 19 making his world cup debute for Ireland, produced a 73.

The English pair of Brand and Waites had a *miserable* time, and their 151 tied them for 19th place with Thailand and Japan. Brand had a respectable 74 which he salvaged by holing a 20-foot putt for an eagle three at the final hole. Scotland finished on 146 with Bernard Gallagher fighting back for a 74 after dropping three shots in the first four holes. Ken Brown looked to be heading for a fine round when he stood two under after 12, but he dopped shots at the 13th and 16th for a 72.

LEADING TEAM SCORES: 138: Canada (D Barr 66, J Anderson 72); 140: United States (R Caldwell 69, J Cook 71); 142: Italy (S Locatelli 67, M Manelli 75); 143: Spain (M Piñero 70, J Canizares 73); 144: Wales (I Woosnam 70, D Vaughan 74); 145: Argentina; Brazil; 146: Australia; Mexico; Philippines; Scotland (Ken Brown 72, Bernard Gallacher 74); South Korea; 147: Ireland (R Rafferty 73, E Darcy 74); 148: West Germany; 149: Singapore; 150: France; Hong kong; Sweden; 151: England (Gordon Brand Sr 74, *Brian Waites 77*); *Thailand*.

RACING

Captain Dynamo to keep Nicholson's winning momentum

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Fred Winter has won the Piper Champagne "Trainer of the Month" award for November, primarily on account of his fine training in difficult circumstances of Brown Chamberlin who won the Hennessey Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury in such devastating style. But it may have been a close run thing because the panel of judges, whose votes decide the award, must have also considered Gavin Pritchard-Gordon and David Nicholson.

Better known for his feats on the flat Pritchard-Gordon boasted a winner to runner ratio that even Michael Dickinson would have been proud of while Nicholson saddled no fewer than 18 winners in November.

Due to the predominantly dry weather last month must have been a nightmare for trainers with promising young horses raring to go. So Nicholson's record with novices was all the more commendable. Voice of Progress; Comedian and Gambir have all made notable contributions to the stable's considerable haul recently and at Cheltenham today I expect to see Captain Dynamo follow suit and win the Coombe Hill Novices Steeplechase.

Bad luck dogged him on his last appearance at Ascot where he was brought down by Visconti in the valuable H & T Walker Goddess Handicap Steeplechase. The fact that Nicholson considered that Captain Dynamo was ready for a crack at a race of that nature so early in his steeplechasing career is an insight to what he thinks of the horse. Before that Captain Dynamo's potential had been underlined by victories at Stratford and Newbury.

With successive wins at Ascot and Newbury to her name Monza poses an obvious threat to my selection but an even greater danger could be the Imperial Cup winner Desert Hero as long as his confidence has not been undermined by that fall at Warwick last month when he appeared poised to win.

Nicholson and his jockey, the redoubtable Peter Scudamore, also have a fair chance of winning the *Foodbrokers-Armour Steeplechase* with Burnt Oak who gave Integration 12lb and a beating at Newbury four weeks ago.

In the meantime Integration has beaten another of today's runners, Easter Carnival, at Ascot albeit only after Easter Carnival had ruined her chance by making a bad mistake at a crucial moment. Before that she had won twice at Wincanton, on the second occasion beating Ashley House when in receipt of a lot of weight.

The presence of *Miss Willie* in the field for the Coral Golden Hurdle qualifier should rekindle memories of her brother Willie Wumpkins who achieved lasting fame by winning the final of this particular series at Cheltenham's National Hunt Festival on three successive occasions at the advanced age of 11, 12 and 13.

Like her brother, Miss Willie stays very well but the ground may not be soft enough yet for her to be able to exploit that stamina to the full and I expect to see her outpaced towards the end by Sanhedrin who put up a good performance at Warwick last month when he finished too strongly for Red Mills in a similar race.

Ability to last three miles should pose no problem for Fame the Spur who finished really well when he won at Warwick eight days ago and at Stratford before that. But he will be meeting Lawnswood Miss on 13lb worse terms than when they clashed at Stratford and that is a big disadvantage for four lengths.

But for misjudging the last fence Ro's Owen would have given Walnut Wonder and Cold Winters plenty to think about at Ascot last month. As Walnut Wonder has enhanced that form since by winning again at Newbury Ro's Owen should be hard to beat in the Kineton Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Steeplechase.

Inchgower, my selection for the second division of the Bristol Novices Steeplechase, is trained by Bill Wightman who, along with *Neville Crump*, must rank as the most senior members of their profession. They took out a licence to train in 1937, two years before Fulke Walwyn. Wighman envisages Inchgower developing into a good three – mile steeplechase and he should know because he trained that great jumper Halloween to win the *King George VI Steeplechase* at Kempton twice at Kempton twice in the early 50s. For the time being though Wightman is intent on not rushing Inchgower who won his last race decidedly well at Kempton over hurdles.

The earlier division could go to *Inisharran, who finished second at* Doncaster recently, at the expense of Destiny Bay whose performances on the race course still to measure up to the esteem in which he is held at home.

Gandolfo eyes Scottish National with Hy-Ko

David Gandolfo, the Wantage trainer, hopes that Hy-Ko, with whom he won the Tote Novices' Chase at Uttoxeter yesterday, will develop into a Scottish Grand *National prospect next spring*. The seven-year-old, scoring for the third time this season, showed his stamina when holding off Master Tercel by a neck, after he had led most of the way ridden by Paul Barton.

"Hy-Ko is a top of the ground stayer, but jumps to the left, so we have to campaign him on left-handed courses. It is a pity as it rules him out of Sandown's Anthony Mildmay-Peter Cazalet memorial chase, sponsored by Albert and Michel Roux, who have shares in him with Mrs Barbara Brubaker", Gandolfo said.

Adrian Sharpe will have to take some ribbing on the Kinnersley Gallops after riding Lodge's Fortune to beat the Mercy Rimell-trained Celtic Brew one and a half lengths in the December Handicap Chase.

Sharpe, aged 21, who comes from Ross-On-Wye, has been the amateur at the Rimell stables since he left school, and has ridden 28 winners, three of them this season. *He certainly showed his ability on* Lodge's Fortune, who was headed at the second last fence by Celtic Brew, but rallied the gelding to regain the lead at the last.

John Jenkins, who has saddled more winners than any other trainer this term, brought his score to 34 with a double from Kyoto and The Totm. John Francome *had* Kyoto in front all the way to capture the Sudbury Novices' Chase by seven lengths from Gamble Hall. The Totm, despite Steve Smith Eccles, putting up 4lb overweight, landed the Cubley Selling Handicap Hurdle from Russian Salad.

● At Carlisle John O'Neill broke a run of 17 successive *losers* when Final Argument defied top weight to score a two and a half length victory in the Cumwhinton Handicap Chase.

Cheltenham

Going: good to firm

Tote: Double 1.40, 2.50. Treble 1.5, 2.15, 3.25.

[Television: (BBC 1) 2.15, 2.50 and 3.25 races]

12.30 BRISTOL HURDLE (Div I: novices: £1,545: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

101 00024-1 DESTINY BAY (G Johnson) N Henderson 5-11-10 .... J Francome
102 32222-0 BAZ BOMBATI (Mrs C Tallents) S Mellor 6-11-5 .... J Nolan
104 CAMP DUNPHY (R O'Byrne) J Gifford 5-11-5 .... R Rowe
106 FESTIVAL AIR (F Jarvey) P Pritchard 9-11-5 .... P Dever 7
113 900-f KILTON JIM (Mrs R Dimond) R Dimond 7-11-5 .... C Gray 4
115 p0030-0 LEVANTA LEE (P Meaden) N Mitchell 5-11-5 .... Mr N Mitchell
116 0008-4 MANNA BRIDGE (R Leder) D Gandolfo 5-11-5 .... P Barton
120 40/00-0 SHACKLETONS FLIER (R Shaw) R Shaw 9-11-5 .... B Hoolahan 4
121 303p0-p SOLAR KRIS (Mrs B Willcocks) G Doidge 10-11-5 .... C Hopwood 7
123 p300/ TUDOR EXPRESS (R Dowsett) R Hartop 7-11-5 .... J Barlow
128 00002-2 COMRA (*J Bevan*) J Wright 4-11-0 .... K Mooney
129 2 INISHARRAN (D O'Duffy) Mrs M Rimell 4-11-0 .... S Morshead
130 00 LIZMOR (K Hunt) R Champion 4-11-0 .... G McCourt

15-8 Inisharran, 9-4 Destiny Bay, 9-2 Baz Bombati, 8 Comra, 14 Manna Bridge, 16 Camp Dunphy, 25 others.

1.5 KINETON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS CHASE (handicap: £3,043: 2m) (8)

201 220420- CLASSIFIED (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10 .... P Croucher
202 2901-43 RO'S OWEN (D) (Mrs J Cotton) F Winter 8-11-1 .... N Fearn
205 04-2u13 AMBREMONT (D) (*Mrs J Thomsett*) D Elsworth 10-10-2 .... R Arnott
207 0p-f1s2 WATER ROCK (D) (J Thorne) J Thorne 8-10-0 .... P Dever
208 13330-0 MIDNIGHT SONG (D) (Mrs D Price) T Forster 8-10-0 .... G Charles-Jones
209 321p31 BROTHER SLANEY (D) (J Eaton) J Eaton 7-10-0 (6 ex) .... –
210 fo022u BALLYBUTLER (D) (Mrs V Bishop) V Bishop 11-10-0 .... –
212 0p040/0 CURRENT CHANCE (CD) (Mrs F Smith) F Smith 12-10-0 .... B Powell

9-4 Ro's Owen, 100-30 Brother Slaney, 9-2 Classified, 7 Ambremont, 8 Water Rock, 14 Midnight Song, 20 Ballybutler, 25 others.

1.40 BRISTOL HURDLE (Div II: novices: £1,528: 2m 4f) (21)

301 60/1 INCHGOWER (Miss D Downes) W Wightman 6-11-10 .... M Harrington
302 09-0820 ALANGROVE SOUND (N Brookes) N Brookes 5-11-5 .... Mr N Brookes
303 040/4 BALTIC (Mrs S Pattemore) S Pattemore 7-11-5 .... S Smith Eccles
304 BELMONT AIR (P Hopkins) J Gifford 5-11-5 .... R Rowe
305 60p00-p CHALK PIT (J Henderson) N Henderson 5-11-5 .... J Francome
307 0 EARLY NITE (B) (I Potter) P Pritchard 5-11-5 .... Miss H Hart 7
308 003-0 FIRING PARTY (*Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin*) F Winter 6-11-5 .... R Linley
309 pf00p-f HARRYDUF (P Dufosee) P Dufosee 7-11-5 .... Mr G Maundrell
311 LIFFEY (Queen Mother) F Walwyn 5-11-5 .... W Smith
312 MARTIN CROSS (Mrs M Easton) Mrs M Easton 5-11-5 .... Mr A Jones 7
314 00 ROYAL VIEW (Mrs C Crozier) V Bishop 7-11-5 .... Mr C Crozier
316 090230/ THE CLANSMAN (J Russell) R Hartop 7-11-5 .... J Barlow
317 4 *ARMY COUNCIL (Queen Mother) R Champion 4-11-0 .... J J O'Neill*
318 02-4031 AUTUMN GIFT (D) (Partemps Group Ltd) W Jenks 4-11-0 .... S J O'Neill
319 AYLE HERO (Mrs L Dresher) J Webber 4-11-0 .... G McCourt
321 4020-30 CRESUN (J Bolam) S Woodman 4-11-0 .... P Barton
322 DRAGUNN (Gurn-Hughes Ltd) M Tate 4-11-0 .... P Scudamore
323 00-pp30 FLOATING LOVER (C Mitchell) N Mitchell 4-11-0 .... B Powell 7
326 0 MASTER BOATMAN (*A.P.D. Insulations*) *P M Taylor* .... *A Carroll*
327 p00- SEAL SHREW (M4e) R Dening 7-11-0 .... R Rowell
328 SUNBERRY (C Sweeting) F Walwyn 4-11-0 .... K Mooney

3 Inchgower, 4 Firing Party, 11-2 Army Council, 8 Baltic, 12 Cresun, Sunberry.

2.15 FOODBROKERS-ARMOUR CHASE (handicap: £6,317: 3m 1f) (9)

401 01400-f SCOT LANE (CD) (T Isherwood) M Tate 10-11-10 .... A Webber
403 0p0-0ff TACROY (*A Duffield*) P O'Connor 9-11-2 .... S Charlton
410 12pp-14 MUSSO (C) (R. E. A. Bott Ltd) F Winter 7-10-0 .... B de 'Haan
411 1231-12 *BURNT OAK (Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 7-10-0* .... P Scudamore
412 14-4112 EASTER CARNIVAL (D) (Mrs M Best) K Bishop 7-10-0 .... J J O'Neill
413 p2121p INTEGRATION (E Retter) E Retter 9-10-0 .... *J Francome*
414 3-01022 DON SABREUR (CD) (D Pearman) D Pearman 6-10-0 .... S Morshead
417 10-2212 KOGA WAY (D) (Mrs J Alford) J Thorne 8-10-0 .... P Nicholls
418 31p4/40 RIDAN TOWER (Mrs A Davies) J Gifford 8-10-0 .... R Rowe

2 Burnt Oak, 100-30 Integration, 4 Easter Carnival, 11-2 Musso, 10 Koga Way.

FORM: Scot Lane latest fell, earlier (11-2) 9th beaten over 30l to Drumlargan (rec 6lb) 15 ran. Sandown 3m 5f h'cap chase soft Apr 23. Easter Carnival (11-11) 2nd been 20l to Integration (rec 11lb) 3 ran. Ascot 3m h'cap chase firm Nov 19. Burnt Oak (11-12) 2nd beaten 6l to Lorentino (rec 6lb) 6 ran. Wolverhampton 3m 2f chase firm Nov 28. Burnt Oak (11-7) won hd from Integration (rec 12lb) 6 ran. Newbury 3m h'cap chase firm Nov 9. Don Sabreur (10-0) 2nd beaten 1½l to *Lucky Vane (gave 7lb) 7 ran. Warwick 3m 4f 300yd h'cap chase good Nov 19. Musso (11-13) 4th* beaten 11l to Integration (rec 22lb) 4 ran. Newbury 3m h'cap chase firm Nov 2. Integration latest pulled earlier see Easter Carnival. Koga Way (11-1) 2nd beaten 4l to Plundering (rec 3lb) 5 ran. Wincanton 3m 1f h'cap chase firm Nov 24.
SELECTION: Musso.

2.50 COOMBE HILL CHASE (novices: £3,121: 2m) (6)

502 0p1-11b CAPTAIN DYNAMO (D) (H Plotnek) D Nicholson 7-11-4 .... P Scudamore
504 4-12311 MONZA (D) (J Fenwick) P Cundell 5-11-3 .... R Rowe
506 0u04f1 BRITANNICUS (D) (N Thomson) N Thomson 7-11-0 .... Mr S Stickland
507 31310-f DESERT HERO (Lord Fermoy) F Walwyn 9-11-0 .... K Mooney
508 040200- *KILLING TIME (R Shaw) R Shaw 6-11-0 .... B Hoolahan*
510 232012- LINAWN (Stype Wood Stud) N Henderson 6-11-0 .... J Francome

11-8 Captain Dynamo, 5-2 Monza, 4 Desert Hero, 10 Linawn, 12 Brittanicus, 16 Killing Time.

FORM: Monza (11-0) won 2l from Aces Wild (rec 3lb) 4 ran. Newbury 2m chase firm Nov 25. Captain Dynamo latest brought down earlier (11-5) won 1l from Hello Killiney (rec 5lb) 6 ran. Newbury 2m 4f nov chase firm Nov 2. Desert Hero latest fell 2nd last when looking a winner when having first run over fences, earlier (11-12) 7th beaten over 13l to The Foodbroker (rec 16lb) 8 ran. Cheltenham 2m h'cap hdle soft Apr 20. Britannicus (11-0) won 1½l from Artac Charter (rec 1lb) 16 ran. Taunton 2m nov chase good to firm Dec 1. Linawn (11-12) 2nd beaten 12l to Malford Lad (rec 4lb) 20 ran. Cheltenham 2m 4f nov hrdle soft Apr 20.
SELECTION: Captain Dynamo.

3.25 CORAL GOLDEN HURDLE (handicap: £2,973: 3m) (15)

604 014-311 FAME THE SPUR (E Marshall) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-8 (6 ex) .... B de Haan
606 01011-0 PAPA'S BUSKINS (D O'Duffy) Mrs M Rimell 7-11-7 .... S Morshead
607 22030-2 *LAWNSWOOD MISS (A Hill) R Hollinshead 5-11-4 .... J J O'Neill*
610 00-2312 ATATAHO (C) (Mrs S Pattemore) S Pattemore 7-11-1 .... S Smith Eccles
612 301111 SANHEDRIN (D Thorne) G Balding 6-10-13 .... Mr S Sherwood
613 23130-0 MISS WILLIE (D) (Mrs T Pilkington) Mrs T Pilkington 7-11-13 .... Mr A J Wilson
614 01021-0 BLACK PENNY (D) (Elwell Farm Ltd) J Old 5-10-10 .... DOUBTFUL
615 321212 LEGAL SESSION (D) (W Lonsdale) Mrs G Reveley 6-10-10 .... G W Gray
616 44030-3 RIGTON BEAU (Miss C Coyne) G Kindersley 6-10-8 .... A Webber
619 f0302p- LE SARTHOIS (T Raggett) Mrs S Davenport 6-10-5 .... P Scudamore
620 01-00 WET BOB (B) (A Simpson) R Holder 5-10-2 .... P Richards
621 1230-p0 DOM PERIGNON (Mrs J Roe) G Roe 8-10-0 .... Mr G Roe
622 0/0-030 FITZGAYLE (A Darlington) D Barons 5-10-0 .... W Smith
623 00300-0 CHOCOLATE DROP (*Mrs R Williams*) J Edwards 5-10-0 .... W Knox 7
624 0000P-0 MAT (Mrs P Blackburn) Miss S Morriss 6-10-0 .... M O'Halloran

4 Sanhedrin, 5 Lawnswood Miss, 11-2 Fame The Spur, 6 Papa's Buskins, 8 Rigton Beau, 10 Atataho, Legal Session, 16 others.

FORM: Fame The Spur (10-7) won 3l from Miners Lodge (gave 3lb) 27 ran. Warwick 2m 5f h'cap hdle good Dec 1. *Lawnswood Miss* (10-9) 2nd beaten 4l to Fame the Spur (rec 9lb) 16 ran. Stratford 2m 6f h'cap hdle good Nov 10. Atataho (10-6) 2nd beaten 2½l to Lion Hill (rec 9lb) 11 ran. Cheltenham 3m 1f h'cap hdle firm Oct 26. Sanhedrin (11-7) won 1½l from Red Mills (gave 2lb) 10 ran. Warwick 2m 5f h'cap hdle good to firm Nov 19. Legal Session (11-0) 2nd beaten 5l to Allerlea (gave 9lb) 5 ran. Cheltenham 3m 1f h'cap hdle firm Nov 12. Rigton Beau (11-8) 3rd beaten 2½l to Canio (rec 5lb) 17 ran. Newton Abbot 2m 5f 100yd h'cap hdle Oct 22. Wet Bob (10-5) 7th beaten over 18l to Captain Fisk (gave 1lb) 12 ran. Chepstow 2m 4f h'cap c hdle good to firm Oct 1.
SELECTION: San Hedrin.

David Nicholson and Peter Scudamore: chance of a Cheltenham double with Burnt Oak and Captain Dynamo.

Cheltenham selections

By Michael Phillips

12.30 Inisharran. 1.05 Ro's Owen. 1.40 Inchgower. 2.15 Burnt Oak. 2.50 Captain Dynamo. 3.25 Sanhedrin.

Devon & Exeter

Going: good to firm

12.15 DEVONSHIRE CHASE (handicap: £2,411: 3m 1f) (17 runners)

3 23-23P2 SOLID ROCK (CD) (R Cottle) D Barons 7-11-7 .... J Frost
5 3332P-2 CANFORD GINGER (D) (A Sykes) D Elsworth 8-11-4 .... J H Davies 4
8 1P34F-0 PORT ASKAIG (CD) (Lord Chelsea) T Forster 8-11-3 .... H Davies
11 F23-03F NO PARDON (C) (A L Hobbs) A L Hobbs 8-11-0 .... Mr P Hobbs 4
14 401020- CHINGOLO (Mrs S Davenport) Mrs S Davenport 9-10-11 .... M Williams
15 034/01F WILD GAMBLE (Mrs B Cobden) J Cobden 9-10-11 .... P Hobbs
18 213104 KNIGHT OF LOVE (H Manners) H Manners 8-10-8 .... Mr S Bush 7
20 3131F3 LUCKY CALL (H Shouler) D Nicholson 9-10-7 .... N Madden
23 220/0P1 GIDDYCAN (J John Irish) K Bishop 7-10-6 (7 ex) .... P Richards
25 22/21-3 *LAST ARGUMENT (C Snow) N Gaselee 9-10-5 .... S Smith Eccles*
28 F1440-3 MINT STREAK (D) (P Oliver) Mrs E Kennard 7-10-1 .... –
30 P0-F101 KING'S BISHOP (D) (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) L Kennard 6-10-0 .... C Brown
34 0P0122 KARS (Fletchline Ltd) J Old 7-10-0 (7 ex) .... DOUBTFUL
35 3P/03PP PLAYFIELDS (Andrew Baird) P Burgoyne 8-10-0 .... –
37 PP-0000 WITHYMANS POOL (B) (Mrs R Hayes) N Ayliffe 9-10-0 .... M Ayliffe 4
38 040F-44 EASY PICKENS (C) (J Staddon) K Bishop 8-10-0 .... J Hurst 7
40 0430F4 BARGELLO SON (C) (Mrs J White) N Kernick 6-10-0 .... M Yeoman 7

4 Solid Rock, 9-2 Canford Ginger, 5 Last Argument, 7 Giddycan, 8 King's Bishop.

12.45 DAILY MIRROR CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HURDLE (£1,335: 2m 1f) (18)

3 00-0203 SEA PENNANT (I R Jones) I Jones 7-11-7 .... C Evans 3
4 3131P-0 B JASKI (M Perry) G Thorner 4-11-6 .... W Newton
7 30320P- IMPERIUM (R Fry) J Old 6-11-3 .... J L Cosgrave 5
10 20-P010 ROSA RULER (G Berry) I Wardle 5-11-1 .... R Campbell 3
11 41100-0 THE GANGER MAN (CD) (P Trant Ltd) D Elsworth 4-10-13 .... S Moore 3
12 0F-1012 *AKRAM (CD) (S Allen) S Pattemore 5-10-13* .... C Cox 5
14 1112F-0 JAMES HUNT (R Aldridge) J Old 8-10-11 .... E Murphy 3
15 410400- FITZHERBERT (CD) (A Ford) L Kennard 5-10-10 .... Susan Wilton 5
16 12000-4 BOWDEN (Miss Douglas-Pennant) I Dudgeon 5-10-8 .... R Chapman
17 4F-RUP0 *GOLDEN CYMBAL (B) (M Neck) I Wardle 8-10-8 .... R Arnott 3*
20 301340- MIDINETTE (L Merson) G Merson 8-10-7 .... M Palmer 5
21 021214 SPARK OFF (CD) (T Baker) J H Baker 7-10-5 .... L Bloomfield
22 P21100- HIT THE ROAD (CD) (Mrs S Pattemore) S Pattemore 5-10-4 .... M Bridgman 5
23 0-0003F BEN EWEN (B Brooks) D Nicholson 4-10-2 .... D Chinn 5
24 2310-2 SUNSHINE GAL (C Burrough) M Pipe 5-10-2 .... –
25 00000F- BLUE PATROL (Shirlstar Container) K Bailey 7-10-2 .... –
32 FF DEO GRATIAS (F Colwill) M Pipe 8-10-0 .... –
33 4301F/4 REALES (CD) (Miss P Vaughan) W G Turner 5-10-0 .... Jessica Turner 5

3 Akram, 100-30 Sunshine Gal, 5 Sea Pennant, 13-2 B Jaski, 8 Fitzherbert, 9 Bowden.

1.15 HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (novices: £1,376: 2m 1f) (18)

2 0P0000 PARDI NICKEL (CD) (A Weeks) W G Turner 5-11-10 .... A Geering 7
3 411 *PRIDEAUX BOY (C Roach) C Roach 5-11-10 .... B Wright*
4 020331 SAMMY LUX (K W Dunn) K Dunn 5-11-5 .... Mr P Schofield 4
11 000-P0 CHESTERFIELD (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 5-11-0 .... M Richards 4
12 300013 DERBYSHIRE FILET (A Mcindo) J Roberts 8-11-0 .... C Brown
15 30-0000 GUNNER BLUE (R Ridout) I Wardle 5-11-0 .... –
16 P-P KNOLE HILL (Mrs F Goodwin-Brown) R Hodges 6-11-0 .... –
17 P0P- *LIMA LOO (Mrs B Bolt-Brown) M Stephens 5-11-0 .... Mrs C Budd 7*
18 F LINCOLN BENNETT (W McKenzie-Coles) W McKenzie-Coles 6-11-0 .... –
23 00FPP-0 RAJENS AIR (P Terry) Mrs B Waring 6-11-0 .... J Williams
26 4004-04 SMITH'S MAN (Smith Mansfield Co Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-0 .... M Bastard
38 0-P00 ROWDEN FULER (B) (D Martin) D Tucker 4-10-10 .... S McNeill
39 P SILLY SOUK (H Burridge) B Palling 4-10-10 .... M Williams
48 000-040 *IDSON LASS (J R Payne) J Payne 5-10-9 .... P Richards*
52 002-000 SUTTON COURT (Miss B Sykes) Miss B Sykes 5-10-9 .... P Warner
55 TOM'S COMEDIENNE (T Staddon) W R Williams 5-10-9 .... R Millman 4
59 P0000-0 FERDEE FREE (C Rendle) T Hallet 4-10-5 .... L Bloomfield 4
62 TOT OF BRANDY (Miss M Creese) R Hodges 4-10-5 .... –

7-4 Prideaux Boy, 3 Sammy Lux, 5 Smith's Man, 7 Derbyshire Filet, 10 Sutton Court,

1.45 BUZZARD HURDLE (novice: selling: £531: 2m 1f) (18)

1 010 PHILLIPS HUSSAR (Mrs D Madden) K Cunningham-Brown 3-11-0 .... Mr J White
3 010330 FAIR PATRICK (D Tucker) D Tucker 4-10-12 .... P Stone 7
5 044 IN SLIPS (M Prescott) N Kernick 4-10-12 .... M Yeoman 7
10 200-0 SONG BOY (R Keenor) R Keenor 4-10-12 .... –
11 F00 STURDY STEED (E C Steed Ltd) S Pattemore 4-10-12 .... M Bridgman 7
13 00 BONNIE'S DELIGHT (P J West) P J West 4-10-7 .... L Bloomfield 4
15 0 GRANADOS KING (D Payne) W G Turner 3-10-7 .... George Knight
16 243 *INSPIRED (W G Turner) W G Turner 3-10-7 .... Jessica Turner 7*
18 20-40 MIDDLETON SUE (R Hodges) R Hodges 4-10-7 .... –
19 MISS INIGO (H J M Webb) H J M Webb 4-10-7 .... M Richards 4
20 MUMMY'S ANGEL (Mrs S Pattemore) S Pattemore 4-10-7 .... C Cox 7
21 P043 NESTOR MAN (Mrs J Marks) Miss P O'Connor 3-10-7 .... D Hyde 4
22 0-P4 NOT SO DEAR (Mrs C Howard) A Davison 4-10-7 .... R Goldstein
24 P0 SHARP MELODY (Mrs F Baxter) H Beasley 4-10-7 .... M Furlong
26 *SHEER MADNESS (M Jowitt) W G Turner 3-10-7 .... D Chinn 7*
28 AUNTY JOAN (T Rooney) J Roberts 3-10-2 .... Mr T Rooney 7
31 BOX THREE RANGERS (Mrs M Heasman) S May 3-10-2 .... S May
32 03000 KATE THE SHREW (Major R Thorman) C James 3-10-2 .... S Jobar

4 Phillips Hussar, 5 Kate The Shrew, 13-2 Fair Patrick, 8 In Slips, 9 Middleton Sue, 10 Sturdy Steed, Mummy's Angel, 12 Inspired, 14 Nestor Man, Not So Dear, 16 Aunty Joan, 20 others.

2.15 BLACKDOWN STUD CHASE (novices: mares: £1,287: 2m 1f) (11)

1 231434 PRESCEENA WOOD (C) (P Tylor) P Tylor 9-11-5 .... P Warner
5 30-0202 ARTAC CHARTER (R Frost) R Frost 8-11-0 .... J Frost
7 PP-R030 *BRIANKA (CD) (R Mason) W R Williams 6-11-0 .... R Millman 4*
8 300P2-0 CASSLEY (L Merson) G Merson 10-11-0 .... Mr P Hobbs 4
11 40-0033 DISHCLOTH (Lady S Brooke) Lady S Brooke 9-11-0 .... J Bryan
12 0F003-0 DOUCEMENT (Mrs B Cobden) J Cobden 7-11-0 .... P Hobbs
19 040-000 LIGHT OF ZION (R Manning) R Manning 6-11-0 .... E Waite
20 R LUNAR FANTASY (C Rowe) M Stephens 7-11-0 .... R Hoare
23 00F-F3F *PRINCESS ISIS (C Henty) P Bailey 5-11-0 .... R Stronge 4*
24 /100-FP QUEEN MEANDER (Mrs T Stopford-Sackville) N Henderson 7-11-0 .... H Davies
28 /U030-3 WIN GREEN HILL (R Fry) J Old 7-11-0 .... P Murphy 4

7-2 Dishcloth, 4 Artac Charter, 5 Win Green Hill, 13-2 Princess Isis, 7 Queen Meander, 9 Doucement, 10 Presceena Wood, 12 Cassley, 16 others.

2.45 SPARROW HAWK HURDLE (novices: £414: 2m 1f) (18)

3 310 BOLT THE GATE (CD) (D Williams) D Williams 4-11-10 .... J Frost
4 0P-1022 QUITE HOT (CD) (N Ayliffe) N Ayliffe 4-11-10 .... M Ayliffe 4
7 P CHARLIE THE DANCER (W McKenzie-Coles) W McKenzie-Coles 6-11-7 .... –
8 0- *CHART RETURN (W Gaff) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-7 .... C Brown*
11 04-22 FIONNADOIR (C Brooks) F Winter 5-11-7 .... Mr C Brooks 7
15 22- NO-U-TURN (S Tindall) S Mellor 5-11-7 .... M Perrett
16 PARISH RIGGED (S Sainsbury) T Forster 5-11-7 .... H Davies
17 0- PRINCE'S DRIVE (B Manning) B Palling 5-11-7 .... C Evans 7
18 SMOKENTAL (C House) J Old 5-11-7 .... P Murphy 4
19 40 *SWEDISH BEAU (C Roach) C Roach 5-11-7 .... B Wright*
20 P BELLA ROMANO (R Brown) D Wintle 5-11-2 .... W Wathen 7
22 RIPPLING WIND (Mrs E Dudgeon) I Dudgeon 7-11-2 .... Steve Knight
29 THRYLOS (County Garages) A Chamberlain 4-11-0 .... A Chamberlain 4
30 TOMMY'S CHOICE (V Nash) J King 4-11-0 .... J Suthern
31 WONDER WOOD (D Robinson) R Holder 4-11-0 .... P Richards
32 *BRAVE MAIDEN (G Palmer) M Pipe 4-10-9 .... P Leach*
33 CELTIC MYTH (P Tylor) P Tylor 4-10-9 .... L Bloomfield 4
35 IT'S ONLY ME (T Green) Mrs N Kennedy 4-10-9 .... M Bastard

2 Fionadoir, 3 No-U-Turn, 5 Parish Rigged, 13-2 Brave Maiden, 8 Bolt The Gate, 9 Quite Hot, 10 Wonder Wood, 12 Swedish Beau, 16 others.

Devon selections

By Michael Phillips

12.15 Canford Ginger. 12.45 Akram. 1.15 Prideaux Boy. 1.45 Fair Patrick. 2.15 Dishcloth. 2.45 Fionnadoir.

Uttoxeter results

Going: Good to firm

1.00 SUDBURY CHASE 5yo: novices: £1,109: 2m 1f
KYOTO b g by Averof – Klondyke Fire (B Monkhouse) 11 10 .... J Francome (2-1) 1
Gamble Hall .... P Scudamore (8-13fav) 2
Cal Mal .... M P Schofield (12-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £3.10. Places: £1.60, £1.10. DF: £1.70. CSF: £3.86. J Jenkins at Horsham. 7l, 15l. Alabama (20-1) 4th. 7 ran. NR: Hope End.

1.30 CUBLEY HURDLE selling handicap: (£643: 2m 4f)
THE TOTM b g by Owen Anthony – Anner Loch (O Donnelly) 6-10-5
S Smith Eccles (3-1 Fav) 1
Russian Salad .... K Mooney (7-1) 2
Severn Sound .... G Davies (7-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £4.60. Places: £1.60, £2.40, £1.80. DF: £17.30. CSF: £23.54. Tricast: £71.21. J Jenkins at Horsham 7½l, 10l. Probability (8-1) 4th. 10 ran. NR: Lord Charles bought in 750 gns.

2.0 DECEMBER CHASE handicap: (£1,892: 2m 4f)
LODGE'S FORTUNE ch g by George Spalvin – Squite Fortuno (Mrs G Lodge) 8 10 6.
Mr A Sharpe (8-1) 1
CELTIC Brew .... S Morshead (9-2) 2
Green Dolphinn .... A Webber (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £8-10. Places: £2.20, £1.50, £2.40. DF: £13.80. CSF: £41.94. Tricast: £620.65. Mrs S Davenport at Leominster. 1½l, 10l. Snowtown Boy (7-1) 4th. Mr Marlsbridge (4-1 fav) 11 ran.

2.30 TOTE CHASE (novices: £2,258: 3m 2f)
HY-KO b g by Seiko – Digynie (Mrs M Brubaker) 7-11-8 .... P Barton (evens fav) 1
Master Tercel .... S Morshead (9-2) 2
Keep A Promise .... Mrs G Rees (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.10. Places: £1.10, £1.80, £7.10. DF: £2.80. CSF: £5.05. D Gandolfo at Wantage. Nk, 20l. Pearly King (10-1) 4th. 11 ran. Nr Mr Lark.

3.0 ROCESTER HURDLE 3-y-o: novices: £690: 2m 4f
INVINCIBLE SHADOW b f by Abwah – Pardilly (Seafoco Ltd) 10-11 .... R Crank (4-1) 1
Nielan .... J Francome (4-5 fav) 2
Soltrea .... M Berry (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £4.00. Places: £1.80, £1.30, £2.40. DF: £3.20. CSF: £8.34. B McMahon at *Tamworth. 1½l, 2l. North Key (20-1) 4th. 14 ran.* Nr: Thistle Stick, Jennie Pat.

3.30 ASHBOURNE HURDLE (4-y-o: handicap: £1,372: 2m 1f
SIR LUCKY ch c by Bonne Noel – Mount Gay (P Brown) 10-4 bl .... R Crank (10-1) 1
Sandwalker .... S Morshead (10-1) 2
Fit For A King .... G McCourt (11-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £10.70. Places: £2.60, £1.70, £2.70. DF: £35.00. CSF: £102.66. Tricast: £557.80. C Crossley at Wirral. Kilroe's Calin (9-4 fav) 4th. 13 ran.
PLACEPOT: £8.30.

Carlisle

Going: good to firm

12.45 CALDBECK HURDLE (Div I: novices: (£621: 2m 330yds)
PEBBLE ISLAND b g by Pongee – Native Queen (Mrs R Doccher) 4-11-2
N Doughty (5-2jt fav) 1
Coal Andy .... P A Charlton (20-1) 2
Jacinto Times .... J J O'Neill (5-2jt fav) 3
TOTE: Win: £3.10. Places: £1.40, £6.10, £1.10. DF: £78.00. CSF: £59.69. G Richards at *Greystoke. 3l, 3l. Arpal Dambuster (20-1) 4th.* 12 ran. NR: Secret Lake.

1.15 ASPATRIA HURDLE (selling: £515: 2m 330yds
RABY br f Pongee – Sherry (W. McFarlane) 4-11-10 .... P Tuck (7-2) 1
Roon The Sea .... D Wilkinson (20-1) 2
Rhymer .... N Doughty (3-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £3.70. Places: £1.70, £2.00, £1.30. DF: £25.40. CSF: £56.29. C H Bell at Hawick. 12l, 5l. Sharazour (6-4fav) Misty Mirage (9-1) 4th. 8 ran. Bought in 1,000gns.

1.45 CUMWHINTON CHASE (handicap: £1,380: 3m)
FINAL ARGUMENT b g No Argument – Dear Rose (G Bartholomew) 7-11-7
J J O'Neill (4-7 fav) 1
Lasenberry .... P Tuck (4-1) 2
Unscrupulous Judge .... K Jones (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.80. Places: £1.00, £1.80, £3.90. DF: £3.00. CSF: £3.79. G Richards at Greystoke. 2½l, 3l. Hardy Lad (20-1) 4th. 8 ran.

2.15 HEADS NOOK CHASE (novices: £1,202: 2m 4f)
SIR MARCUS b g, by Marcus Superbus – Miss Hubbard (Mrs G Reed) 7-11-3
Mr T Reed (10-1) 1
Threlkeld .... B Storey (8-1) 2
Ambassador Boy .... T G Dun (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £11.10. Places: £5.30, £1.20, £1.20. DF: £29.40. CSF: £82.32. W Reed at Hexham. 12l, 25l. Sam Wrekin (11-4 fav). Only 3 finished. NR: Mighty Run.

2.45 CALDBECK HURDLE (Div II: 1645: 2m 330 yd)
COLONEL ROSE b g by Faz – Rose Maroc (T Goldie) 6-11-0 .... Mr J M Dunn (20-1) 1
Aqua Verde .... B Storey (11-2) 2
Avon Oak .... Mr A Eubank (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £15.60. Places: £2.50, £1.00, £5.50. DF: £53.40. CSF: £127.02. T Goldie at Wilvinning. Nk, 8l. Vitrioic (6-4 fav) 4th. 16 ran.

3.15 LADBROKE HURDLE (handicap: £1,421: 2m 4f)
ON LEAVE br g, by Queen's Husser – Bound Over (R Craze) 6-11-7
C Brownless (5-4 fav) 1
Boardmans Special .... P Tuck (6-1) 2
Secret Finale .... P A Charlton (6-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.30. Places: £1.10, £2.40, £2.10. DF: £14.10. CSF: £12.46. Tricast: *£43.73. A Scott at Wooperton. 1½l, 4l. Glen Willy (12-1) 4th. 10 ran.*

PLACEPOT: £149.35.

● John O'Neill *has his first ride for* the Queen Mother when he partners Army Council, trained by Bob Champion, in the Bristol Novice Hurdle (Div II) at Cheltenham today.

● Craig Smith will be in the Queen's Medical Centre at Nottingham for another 10 days, following an operation *to insert a plate in his* right leg, broken in two places below the knee in a fall from Scot Lane at Nottingham on Monday.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
No 005761 of 1983
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER of THOMAS TILLING PLC
and
IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that a Petition was on the 11th November 1983 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for (a) the sanctioning of a Scheme of Arrangement and (b) the confirmation of the Reduction of the Capital of the above-named Company by cancelling Shares of the said Company in accordance with the terms of the said Scheme of Arrangement. The Capital reserve resulting from the proposed reduction of capital is to be applied in paying up in full Ordinary Shares of the said Company.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before The Honourable Mr Justice Nourse at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London on Monday the 19th day of December, 1983.

ANY creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said Reduction of Capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED the 7th day of DECEMBER 1983.

SLAUGHTER AND MAY
35 Basinghall Street
EC2V 5DB
Solicitors for the said Company.

RE: ESSEX WATER TREATMENT LTD
(In Voluntary Liquidation)
and the Companies Act, 1948

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CREDITORS of the Above named Company are required on or before 13th January, 1984 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the undersigned, D. J. Buchler, F.C.A. of Arthur Andersen & Co., PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT, the Liquidator of the said Company and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 1st December, 1983
D. J. BUCHLER
LIQUIDATOR

No 007170 of 1983
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF ALLIED TEXTILE COMPANIES PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY and IN THE Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

Notice is Hereby Given that a Petition was on the 25th November 1983 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Capital of the above named Company from £3,830,466.50 to £2,500,000 by cancelling Capital which is in excess of the wants of the said Company.

And Notice is Further Given that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Nourse at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London W.C.2 on Monday the 19th day of December 1983.

Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of Capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 8th day of December 1983

ASHURST MORRIS CRISP & Co.
Broadgate House,
7 Eldon Street,
London EC2M 7HD.
Solicitors for the said Company

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE in Bankruptcy
No 667 of 1983

David Arthur Llewellyn, a property consultant, of 43 Eaton Square, London SW1 and 84 South Audley Street, London W1Y 5TG lately of Flat 4, Belbec House, Lowndes Street, London SW1 and Chevendy, Vicarage Road, Yalding, Kent, formerly of Apartment 1011 West Mount Square, Montreal, Quebec, Canada previously of 5 Walton Place, London SW1 lately a Director of Investment Companies. Order of Adjudication dated the 7th day of September 1983.

D. E. DOLMAN
Official Receiver
Thomas More Building
Royal Courts of Justice
Strand, London, WC2A 2JY

also on page 26

Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Change of gear at Daimler Benz

The motor industry is buzzing with news that Daimler Benz, one of the world's most successful car and commercial vehicle manufacturers, has appointed a career engineer as chairman and chief executive after the death of Dr Gerhard Prinz.

Professor Werner Breitschwerdt, aged 56, breaks the pattern of lawyers and accountants that are usually thought necessary to run today's complex motor giants. During his 30 years with the company, he has played a decisive role in developing the safety and the much copied styling of Mercedes cars and lorries. His most recent engineering appointment was head of research and development.

Mercedes has worked hard over the years to acquire its reputation as a manufacturer of outstanding quality cars. How successful it has been can be judged by the fact that its standards are now openly quoted as its competitors's targets.

Recently, however firms such as Jaguar have been closing the gap rather too well for the liking of Mercedes.



Professor Werner Breitschwerdt: a break with tradition.

Now motor men everywhere are wondering whether Professor Breitschwerdt's elevation from research and development to the top job foreshadows an even bigger commitment to advanced technology in the next generation of Mercedes cars. Certainly, there is a growing lobby at Stuttgart for that to be done sooner rather than later.

On a personal note, I welcome Professor Breitschwerdt's appointment because he brings a well developed sense of humour to a company that is only now beginning to shed its grim Swabian outlook.

Taxi challenger

Metro Cammell, the Birmingham company, whose double-deck buses have made such an impact on public transport fleets in recent years, is preparing to do the same with specialist taxis. It it is succesful the monopoly enjoyed by the "black cab" in London and other big cities may come under serious threat for the first time. Metro Cammell is building eight prototypes for road testing in March.

As the artist's impression shows, the Metro Taxi is a good looking vehicle with sleek lines, a short bonnet, six seats, and the extensive areas of glass necessary for safe manoeuvring in congested traffic.

Reports suggest that it will have a glass fibre body and aluminium wings mounted on a sturdy steel chassis. Suggested engines include Land Rover's 2.5 litre diesel unit. Peugeot and General Motors diesels may also be offered as options.

But many have tried and none has yet found the right formula to displace the Victorian looking but still practical "black cab" made by Carbodies at Coventry. The problem is the size of the market – only 2,000 new cabs a year – and the fact that Carbodies is developing a new model, the CR6, which resembles a Range Rover.

The big prize is not the British market, however, but the 4,000-a-year gap that has opened up in the United States since the company building the familiar Checker Cabs went out of business last year. Nevertheless, I cannot see the car-loving American public letting a foreign cab take pride of place on their streets.

Carrera magic

What is there left to say about the Porsche 911 after 20 years of adulation? How can you improve the finest rear-engine sports car in the world?

The concept was right from the start and all that has been required since has been careful, step-by-step honing to give increased performance, safer handling, and improved fuel economy.

Yet somehow Porsche has managed again to add more desirable qualities to the latest version, including the return of the much missed Carrera name.

The famous flat six-cylinder, air-cooled engine has been increased in size yet again, from 3 litres to 3.2. It developes more than 230bhp compared with the 130bhp of the original two-litre unit.

However, the Stuttgart engineers insist that this is not just another "stretching job", but rather an exrensive rebuilding that has given it several desirable new features, including higher performance and better fuel economy. The top speed has increased from 146mph to 152mph, while the 0-to-62mph time has dropped from 6.8 seconds to 6.1 seconds.

I am sure those figures are meat and drink to Porsche enthusiasts. They mean little to me, however.



The 1984 Porshe 911 Carrera Coupe: several new features.

I thought that the previous model was quite fast enough for even the unlimited autobahn.

But there is a "spin-off" that is right up my street. The extra torque now makes it possible for the 911 to lead a genuine Jekyll and Hyde existence. It will potter quite happily in fourth gear in city traffic, or on sightseeing trips in the country, and will *still* accelerate away without protest in the same gear. I even found myself towards the end of the test using fifth in that way.

The last time I drove a 911 I commented on the excessive pedal pressure required to operate the clutch. It was particularly irksome when having to be fed in and out gingerly duringtraffic jams. The clutch on the new test car was appreciably easier to operate, yet Porsche insists that no modification has been made to the activating mechanism. I can assume only that they vary from model to model.

I confirmed the improved braking in an unconventional and alarming way. On a late night and wet journey from Heathrow airport I found myself developing that fixed stare and sense of isolation from other traffic that precedes falling asleep at the wheel.

Fortunately, I was within a mile of a service station at the time, so I pulled over to the inside lane and changed down.

But in my twilight world I put my foot on the brake pedal instead of the clutch. The seat belt prevented my being flung into the windscreen as the 911 was seized by a giant hand that seemed to stop it in its own length.

In that instant, which seemed an eternity, I had released the brake and checked my rearview mirror. Thank God there was nothing behind and thanks to the Porsche engineers who, in addition to increasing the size of the front discs, had *improved* front-rear braking balance and incorporated the pressure-limiting regulator from the 928S to reduce rear-wheel locking. It was a salutory lesson I hope never to repeat.

The 911's distinctive and already aggressive outline is spoilt by the huge whale-tail rear spoiler available as an optional extra and fitted to the test car. Doubtless it improves high-speed stability "in extremis", but I am sure that Porsche would fit it as standard equipment if it was really necessary for safe driving.

Vital statistics

Model: Porsche 911 Carrera Coupé
Price: £21,464
Engine: 3164cc air-cooled, six-cylindex
Performance: Max speed, 152mph; 0 to 62mph, 6.1secs
Official consumption: Urban, 20.8mpg; 56mph, 41.5mpg; and 75mph, 31.4mpg
Length: 14ft
Insurance: Group 9



An artists' impression of the Metro Cammell taxi.

also on page

PERSONAL COLUMNS

FOOLS make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour. Proverbs 14:9.

BIRTHS

EVERSHED – on 7th December to Sheena and Patrick, a daughter, Sarah Bridget.

GRAY – on November 27th at Greenwich, to Julia (nee Davis) and Richard, a son.

GREY–. On December 7th, at St Thomas' Hospital to Felicity (nee Myers) and Denis, a daughter Xanthe Clare Rose, a sister for Daniel.

HALL–. *On December* 4th, 1983, at North Herts Hospital to Jane (nee Salisbury) wife of the Rev David Hall, a son, Andrew George Richard – a brother for Sarah and Edward.

LIPMAN.–On December 1st, 1983, to Susan *(nee Coral) and Ian*–a daughter (Vanessa Jane), a sister for Emily Tessa.

NORMAN – on November 20th at Exeter to Katherine (nee Ellingworth) and Hugh, a daughter, Helen Mary, a sister for James.

SCOTT-WEBB on Dec 4th to Shirley (nee Tipping) and James – a daughter Olivia.

SHAW – On December 7th at the *Westminster Hospital to* Cecile and Christopher a daughter, Catherine Julia Murray

BIRTHDAYS

DO LOVES JO. Happy birthday. D.S.F

P.E.T. Happy Birthday, youngster. "She is indeed as I would have her be" Still true. G.

RICHARD-CHASE. You can't keep a good man down! Happy 40th. Love Jenny and John.

ADOPTION

MOTYER. – By Stephen and Valerie – a son (Robert), a brother for Geoffrey.

MARRIAGES

SPARKS : OKUN–. The marriage took place at St Oswald's Compton Abdale, Gloucestershire on December 3rd, 1983 between Richard, only son of Mr & Mrs Peter Sparks of Compton Abdale and Jennifer, only daughter of Mr & Mrs Milton Okun of New York City.

TERENGHI : ARMSTRONG.–The *marriage took place on* Thursday, 8th December, 1983, in London, of Mr Mario Terenghi and Miss Airdrie Melba-Joyce Armstrong.

GOLDEN WEDDING

FUGGLES–COUCHMAN

SCHREIBER. On December 9, 1933, at St Margaret's, Barming, Norman ...

DEATHS

MEMORIAL SERVICES

LACOSTE A Memorial Service for the late Major Gerald A C Lacoste MBE TD FRIBA FRSA, who died on 22nd November 1983, will be held in the Commonwealth Chapel, St Lawrence Jewry, next to the Guildhall, City of London, at 12 noon on Friday 13th January 1984.

POLLOK-McCALL. – There will be a service of thanksgiving for Pam's life in St Kessog's Church, Auchterarder, on Wednesday, December 21 at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM

CURRY Roger Montague Saville who died 9th December, 1982, sadly missed and always in our thoughts. Anne and Liza.

REED, FRANK. *Treasured memories of* our beloved gentle Frank taken from us on December 10th, 1968. Still so terribly missed by us all. Unforgotten, unforgettable. Sylvia, Alan, Barbara and both our families.

"**du VIVIER** – *In memory of* Major Paul du Vivier, R.E., only son of Mrs. Phyllis Carlish and the late Joseph Evariste du Vivier"

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

JOHNSON – *Claire Daphne. Funeral* service at St John's Church, Stanmore, on Friday 16th December at 2pm. Flowers to W. H. Putnam, Burnt Oak Broadway, NW7.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BESHARA SCHOOL OF INTENSIVE ESOTERIC EDUCATION

Invites applications for the next six-month course at Chisholme House, which begins on 1st *April* 1984. Prospectus, application forms and details of shorter introductory courses from: The Secretary, Chisholme House, Roberton, nr Hawick, Roxburgh, Scotland.

Tel: (045 088) 215

TERRY WOGAN

invites you to *join him in supporting* the work of Arthritis Care, the only charity devoted solely to the welfare and rehabilitation of arthritis sufferers. Your donation will help someone to lead a fuller, more independent life.

ARTHRITIS CARE
Dept. T83, 6 Grosvenor Cres., London SW1.

THE BELFRY, West Halkin Street SW1. You should become a member now. Town membership £46 per annum, £36 for country members. Ring 01-235 9625 for details and join the most beautiful and exclusive luncheon and dinner Club in London.

WE'LL MEET AGAIN. Interested in reviving memories from your past? Television researcher would like to arrange reunions from the 30's, 40's & 50's (not the war time). If interested, please contact with details (0532) 456710 reversing charges.

OXFORD Classics graduate (27), competent, reliable, seeks well paid position perhaps of unusual nature or involving travel. Legal/journalistic experience. Box 2150 H. The Times.

CAT LOVERS! Every year we rescue thousands of cats and kittens – *starving, homeless, often* ill or injured, victims of cruelty or neglect. We also have an active neutering policy to stem the tide of unwanted kittens. Last year we found good homes for over 27,000 cats and *kittens and helped a further* 11,000 in various other ways. Do please join the League (sub. £5 pa) or send us a donation. The Cats Protection League, (est. 1927) 20 North Street, Horsham, W. Sussex.

DEVAS YOUTH CLUB (Reg'd charity) require organiser for 1984, Centenary events. Suit retired executive, expenses. Write: Chairman, 2a Stormont Rd, SW11.

COLLECTOR *disposes of fine* reproduction paintings of Venice; also best Impressionists. Call, 32 Bickenhall ...

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ATOL 173

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Depart 29 Dec rtn 02 Jan
VENICE hotel..................4 nts £129
VENICE *de luxe hotel*.......4 nts *£159*
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Includes hotel B/B, private facilities & transfer

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ANCESTORS. Everybody has them, we trace them. Send your family data and receive details of our services from £150. Burke's Peerage Research Ltd, Dept. 308, 1 Hay Hill, London W1X 7LE. 01-409 1583.

HEATHER JENNER Marriage Bureau (Est 1939), 124 New Bond Street, W1. 01-629 9634. 13 branches (S.M.B.).

FRIENDSHIP LOVE or MARRIAGE, Dateline – all ages, areas. Dateline, Dept (TIM), 25 Abingdon Road, London, W.8. 01-938 1011.

DOORS. – *can you describe your doors* with excitement? – Details, Lady Rose Yorke, daily 8.30-10am. 01-485 9121.

CV's Professionally compiled and presented £26. Details: 01-351 1869 (office hours). Calibre CV's.

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£300 per week

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789 6758 (eves or w'ends).

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225 p.w.

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GROSVENOR SQ. ADJ. Owner seeks discerning tenant for flat, furnished with style in discrete mod blk: 2 bedrms, recep, mod kit, w. machine, *bath with shower*, CH, chw, inc £260 p.w. de la Rue. 01-493 2938/2224.

RICHMOND HILL Lge luxury furnished flat, 2 bedrooms, lge balcony, *outstanding view,* £100 pw. Avail early January. 940 7269.

STUDY/STUDIO/BEDROOM, in quiet flat, London Fields, E.8. £40 incl. C.H. & H.W. 241 0313 eves.

UNFURNISHED Urgently wanted. Fixtures/Fittings purchased. *D.Dixon* 602 4671.

N4. Pleasant family house, 3-4 beds, excellent for transport. CH. Avail Jan to June '84. £500 pcm. 359 8995.

W.1. *2 room, kitchen & bathroom flat,* newly furnished £450 p.c.m. Tel: 486 2965.

ST JOHNS WOOD. Elegant lux s/c 2 ...

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ESSEX AND KENT COUNTY COUNCILS
DARTFORD TUNNEL
Increase in Tolls

NOTICE is hereby given that the Minister of Transport has made an Order under Section 47 of the Dartford Tunnel Act 1967 the effect of which is that, as from 1 January 1984, the tolls charged for traffic using the Dartford Tunnels will be increased to the amounts shown in the Schedule to this Notice.

The Dartford Tunnel Tolls (Revision) Order 1983 may be inspected during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent; County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex; the offices of the Dartford and Thurrock Borough Councils; and the Dartford Tunnel Offices, South Orbital Way, Dartford, until Tuesday, 31 January 1984.

W. G. HOPKIN
Clerk of the Committee

County Hall,
Maidstone
9th December 1983

THE SCHEDULE
(TOLLS LEVIABLE IN RESPECT OF TRAFFIC USING THE TUNNEL)

	CLASSIFICATION OF VEHICLES	TOLL For a single journey through or into the tunnel or on the tunnel approaches
(1)	For each bicycle (not being mechanically powered)	No toll
(2)	For each motor cycle or mechanically powered bicycle with or without sidecar and whether or not conveyed by any service provided under Section 71 (Provision and operation for transporting cyclists and other persons thorugh the tunnel) of the Dartford Tunnel Act 1967.	20p
(3)	For each motor car, including motor car with three wheels, or taxi (up to 30 cwts unladen weight).	60p
(4)	For each light or *medium* goods vehicle, motor coach, omnibus or tractor having no more than two axles.	£1.00
(5)	For each heavy goods vehicle, motor coach or omnibus having more than two axles.	£1.60
(6)	For each special type vehicles which is only permitted to be on the roads under the *authority of an* Order made by the Secretary of State under Section 42 of the Road Traffic Act 1972(a).	£1.60
(7)	For each trailer, the same toll as for the vehicle towing it. Where a vehicle used for drawing a trailer has the trailer attached to it by partial superimposition, the vehicle and trailer *shall for the purpose* of determining the amount of the toll be treated as if they together formed a single vehicle.	
(8)	For vehicles not specified in the foregoing list, the toll shall be that in respect of the most comparable *class of* vehicle.	

Scottish Office
November 1983

PRIVATE LEGISLATION *PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1936*

BRITISH RAILWAYS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application by Petition under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936 has been made to the Secretary of State in November 1983 by the British Railways Board ("the Board") for an Order for purposes of which the following is a concise summary:–

1. To provide for the continued maintenance by the Board of so much of its east coast main line railway (2324.10 metres in length) as is at Penmanshiel in the parish of Cockburnspath in the district of Berwickshire, Borders Region, and as is shown on the plan referred to below.

2. To continue in force in Scotland until 1st January 1988 certain provisions *of section 54 (Powers of police as to search and arrest)* of the British Transport Commission Act 1949 as it applies to the Board.

3. Provisions concerning the stopping up of certain level crossings in the parish of Drumblade, Grampian Region, in the parish of Logierait, Tayside Region, in the parish of Petty, Highland Region, and in the parish of Currie, Lothian Region, and the extinguishment of rights of way over certain level *crossings in the parishes of* Markinch and Leuchars, Fife Region, and in the said parish of Currie subject to the retention of pedestrian rights over the level crossings in that parish.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a plan and section of the railway at Penmanshiel have been deposited for public inspection in the office of the Sheriff Clerk of the Sheriff Court District of Duns at his office at Duns and with the Chief *Executive of the* Berwickshire District Council at Council Offices, 8 *Newtown* Street, Duns.

On and after 2nd December 1983 a copy of the draft Order may be inspected and copies obtained at the price of 80p each at the offices of the said Chief Executive of the Berwickshire District Council and at each of the undermentioned offices.

Petitions against the Provisional Order praying to be heard must be deposited at the Scottish Office, London, not later than six weeks after 11th December 1983 in the manner and subject to conditions prescribed in General Orders 75 to 77, copies of which may be inspected at the offices referred to in the preceding paragraph.

The procedure subsequent to the deposit of the Petition and draft Order will be *by way of Provisional Order unless it be otherwise decided in terms of the Private* Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, in which case the procedure may be by way of Private Bill and, in that case, this Notice will, subject to the Standing Orders of Parliament, apply to such Bill.

DATED this 2nd day of December 1983.

M. G. BAKER.	Melbury House, Melbury Terrace. *London NW1 6JU.* Chief Solicitor and Legal Adviser.
WILLIAM RODDIE.	Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0AH. Solicitor (Scotland).
SHERWOOD & CO..	*Queen Anne's Chambers, 3 Dean Farrar Street.* Westminster, London SW1H 9LG. Parliamentary Agents.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity of Charles J Coverly.
Leathersellers' Company.
City of London
The Charity Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained from them *(Ref 247990 – A1) at 14* Ryder Street London, SW1Y 6AH. Objections and suggestions may be sent to them within one month from today.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

N & S GARAGES LIMITED (in voluntary liquidation)
NOTICE is hereby given that the Creditors of the above-named Company are required, on or before the 5th day of January, 1984, to send their names and addresses, with particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to *the undersigned, Robert Paul Welby,* FCA, of 5th Floor Egyptian House, 170 Piccadilly, London W1V 9DD, the Liquidator of the said Company, and ...

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

CONCERTS

THEATRES

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Lee

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM. News, sport, weather and travel information.

6.30 Breakfast Time: Hosted by Selina Scott and Mike Smith. Regular features include news at 6.30 and half-hourly until 8.30; regional news 6.45, 7.15, 7.45, 8.15; weather 6.31, 6.57, 7.27, 7.57, 8.27; Morning papers 7.18, 8.18. This morning Glynn Christian cooks and Audrey Eyton slims between 8.30 and 9.00.

9.00 My Music. Classical music test, repeated for those who conduct Beethoven in the bath. Steve Race poses the questions (r). 9.25 Closedown.

10.30 Play School. Carol Leader is the aptly-named guest, the story: Rumbelow's Dance, by John Yeoman. 10.55 Play Ideas. Brian Cant accepts criticism of the BBC's toddler-vision. 11.05 Closedown.

12.30 News, weather. 12.57 Financial Report, news headlines.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Resident greenfingers, Peter Seabrook, roots around for gifts to please amateur gardeners. Ronnie Barker brings along some saucy French postcards. 1.45 Little Misses and the Mister Men.

2.00 Racing from Cheltenham. Three-race card covers the 2.15, 2.50 and 3.25.

3.35 Tom And Jerry Double Bill: Ah! Sweet Mouse Story of Life + Bodyguard. 3.55 Play School: It's Friday. 4.20 The Adventures of Bullwinkle and Rocky. Cartoon serial. 4.25 Jackanory: read by John Grant. 4.35 Take Hart.

4.55 Crackerjack. Starry edition includes rock singers David Grant and Toyah, boxer Charlie Magri, sprinter Sonia Lannaman, trick cyclist Barry Lappy and ventriloquist Keith Harris with his puppet pals.

5.40 Sixty Minutes. Current affairs compendium includes News at 5.40; South East at Six (at 5.53); weather (6.15); closing headlines (6.38).

6.40 Friday Sportstime. Weekly magazine.

6.55 Show Business. Starry-eyed survey of stage, screen and pop, presented by Mike Smith. With Spandau Ballet, Dyan Cannon and a tribute to 50 years of Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire.

7.20 Film: The Wildcats of St Trinian's (1980). Sadly, they are but mere kittens compared with the hockey stick horrors who used to inhabit the school for scandals back in the 1950s. Frank Launder helped write and directed the original films and was behind this affectionless attempt to revive and update the series. The schoolgirls campaign for their own trade union. Sheila Hancock is their hard-pressed Head. Joe Melia, Maureen Lipman, Michael Hordern, Rodney Bewes also appear.

8.50 Points of View. – Barry Took largely sneers at those selected from the week's postal opinions.

9.00 News, weekend weather.

9.25 Knots Landing. Ginger's still nuts about singing, though Kenny isn't.

10.15 The Chieftains' Images of Ireland. Irish arts and crafts accompanied by folk music from Paddy Maloney and his men. (London only. See also Regional Variations.)

10.45 News headlines, weather.

10.50 Film: Impasse (1968) Burt Reynolds action movie in which he returns to the Pacific to unearth a cache of gold buried on an island during the second World War. Anne Francis also appears, under Richard Benedict's direction.

12.30 Closedown.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain. With Anne Diamond and Nick Owen, Friday features include Checkout (6.50 and 9.02); Reaction to the Monday Moan (7.45); Fantasy Time with Martin Jarvis (8.05); Jimmy Greaves as TV critic (8.35); Plus news at 6.30 then half-hourly until 9.00; sport at 6.35, 7.40; morning papers at 6.25.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames News Headlines. 9.30 Sesame Street. 10.25 Wilkie in Winter. Olympic swimmer David Wilkie skis. 10.50 Squamish Days. Logger sports in the Rockies. 11.25 Cartoon Time. Popeye. 11.35 Film Fun – The Movie. Pop star films (r).

12.00 We'll Tell You a Story. 12.10 Rainbow.

12.30 Understanding Toddlers. Advice for parents of hyperactive children.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News.

1.30 About Britain: Silicon Glen. The micro-electronics boom brings jobs to the Scottish Borders.

2.00 Private Benjamin. Judy's army life is not so private when her mother moves in. 2.30 Falcon Crest. Cole is the father of Melissa's baby. Down in the Valley, they read all about it, in the Globe (r). 3.30 Sons and Daughters: Serial.

4.00 Rainbow. With Jane Asher (r). 4.20 Dangermouse. 4.25 Sooty. Ray Alan and Lord Charles attend Soo's party. 4.50 Freetime. Christmas party games.

5.15 The Young Doctors. Edna is offered help to run Bunny's Place.

5.45 News.

6.00 The 6 o'clock Show. Metropolitan magazine with Michael Aspel and Paula Yates.

7.00 Family Fortunes. Public opinion guessing game hosted by Max Bygraves.

7.30 Eiger. Mountaineer and loner Eric Jones tackles the notorious north face of the Eiger, alone (see Choice).

8.30 A Fine Romance. Unable to persuade Mike Williams to become a family man, the broody Judi Dench decides on desperate measures.

9.00 Auf Wiedersehen, Pet. Creators Clement and La Frenais hand over their tenderly-crafted building site comedy to the care of writer Stan Hey, whose script centres on the gentle giant, Bomber. He flies home to look for his errant teenage daughter. She turns up in Germany looking for him, and surprised to find the four-star hotel of his letters a stalag-style hut. Wrestler Pat Roach plays Bomber.

10.00 News at Ten, followed by London News Headlines.

10.30 The London Programme. An examination of the effect that the abolition of the Inner London Education Authority will have on London's schools.

11.00 Darts. The World Masters event for men and women held in West London. Welsh housewife Anne Marie Davies defends her women's world title.

12.00 Film: Woyzeck (1979). Haunting German movie, thanks to a stark script by director Werner Herzog and a bare-boned portrayal of the pitiable Private Woyzeck by the cadaverous Klaus Kinski, running from one indignity to the next, mostly from his sadistic superior and the stony mother of his child, Eva Mattes (subtitled).

1.20 Night Thoughts by Rabbi Eliezer Welsz, then Closedown.

Rita Wolf: Romance, Romance (BBC 2, 7.20 pm)

CHOICE

● Fly on the wall film-making assumes a different perspective under Leo Dickinson's intrepid camerawork on EIGER (ITV, 7.30pm). A vast, vertical, vertiginous vista of black rock fills the screen, the notorious north face of the sacrificial mountain, looking like the last place on Earth. Then the scene telescopes into a sloping spine of ice and a speck appears, at first no bigger than a fly, then gradually growing to the figure of a man, literally hanging on for dear life. Welshman Eric Jones, a veteran of previous human endeavour documentaries with Dickinson, is attempting to become the first Briton to climb the north face of the Eiger, alone. "The Eiger is a silly mountain to go in. You see you risk to get killed", Alpine guide Adolf Rubi had warned us, and this film confirms with actors and a breathtaking sky-dive stunt, how previous team attempts have often ended in disaster. What that could mean for Jones, the lone star of this stunning film, is dramatically expressed by a memorable, gut-wrenching, camera shot that pans 5,000 feet down the sheer mountainside. It seems to last for ever.

● ROMANCE, ROMANCE (BBC 2, 7.20pm) is, in its own terms, a tale of daring. This last and best of the six playlets by Farrukh Dhondy again cranes round the curtain of Britain's close-knit Asian community. The heroine of tonight's tale, an English-educated teenager (played with admirable zest by Rita Wolf) evades her prosperous father's attempts to introduce her to a highly eligible Asian entrepreneur, preferring instead to pursue a stage career. Director Jon Amiel is doubly blessed with Saeed Jaffrey as the wily but understanding father, trying to instil a respect for eastern traditions, while he too chases western values and social status. The moral uncertainty, and cultural confusion he shares with his anglicised daughter are deftly drawn by Dhondy with warmth and subtle humour.

● Sir John Pritchard conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus IN HONOREM ADRIAN BOULT (Radio 3, 7.30pm), a concert relay from the Royal Festival Hall to mark the passing of the great conductor.

BBC 2

5.35 News summary, weather.

5.40 Film: The Outriders (1950) Average American Civil War western stars Joel McCrea as a Confederate soldier who escapes from the Yankees but gets roped into ambushing a bullion-bearing wagon train. Watch out for matinee idol Ramon Novarro in a rare speaking role.

7.10 Cartoon Two: The Twitch.

7.20 Romance, Romance. Delightfully deft slice of Anglo-Asian life by Farrukh Dhondy, stars Saeed Jaffrey and Rita Wolf (see Choice).

7.55 Albert – The Early Years. Timewatch and John Tusa return to the Prince Consort, recycling footage filmed in the Duchy of Coburg and other scenes of Albert's adolescence, to coincide with an exhibition at the Royal College of Art. Contributors to this portrait of the aristo as a young man include biographer Daphne Bennett and Professor Dr Adolf Birk.

8.25 Dance International: London Contemporary Dance Theatre in Nympheas, a modern ballet to Debussy, inspired by the impressionist Monet's wonderful waterlily paintings.

9.00 M.A.S.H. Back to the Korean war comedy and the case of the stolen camera. Klinger stands accused, Winchester handles his defence, and Hawkeye and BJ plan to expose the real thief.

9.25 Farmer's Arms. This looked an obvious Choice for tonight, until I actually sat through it. Already screened at the London Film Festival (it's never more than a filmed play) and promisingly billed as "a Cornish country and western comedy" (well, it is set in Cornwall, where wears Wyatt Earp gear, and it is, in parts, funny) this patchy piece by Nick Darke remains for the most part, obscure. Philip Jackson plays a young farmer, fed up because the lass he fancies prefers an American Marine. The American Marine is fed up because he doesn't fancy the prospect of aiding nuclear destruction. And Brenda Bruce, as the local conservationist, is fed up because she doesn't fancy an American nuclear missile base so near. I was fed up because I fancy I couldn't understand what on Earth I was meant to make of it all and why, in the ominous last reel, a heap of human skeletons are discovered on the beach.

10.25 The Light of Experience. Staying on the land (see above), a tale of farming and faith with reference to Scotsman Tom Barry, who used to be a city gent.

10.40 Newsnight.

11.25 Whistle Test-On the Road. The Smiths play rock at Derby Assembly Rooms.

12.10 Closedown.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 The Munsters*. Lily gets the wrong end of the bolt when she reads love letters that soft-hearted Herman has written on behalf of a shy work-mate. Yvonne de Carlo and Fred Gwynne co-star in the classic comedy set in a happy house of horrors (r).

5.30 The Tube. Live rock show promises an interview with one of its most enthusiastic fans, Mick Jagger. Plus Ian Dury, Simple Minds, the Naturalites and the Realistics, not to mention the delightfully uninhibited presenters, Jools Holland and Leslie Ash.

7.00 Channel 4 News. Alastair Stewart mans the desk.

7.30 Right to reply. Gus Macdonald and relevant programme makers deal with a selection of viewers' views.

8.00 The Amateur Naturalist. Husband and wife wildlife enthusiasts, Gerald and Lee Durrell, on safari up the River Wye, in Wales, where they find polecats, water birds raising their young in the middle reaches and, downstream, predatory pike and mink. At one time, they could expect to find otters with ease. Now the population is under threat and in decline, though the Durrells, conservationists to the core, suggest how they may be saved.

8.30 The World at War – Another Look. The first of four companion-pieces to the obligatory television history of World War Two. This deals with the political, ethical and strategic pressures on cameramen covering war, and asks how much we should believe of what we are shown.

9.15 Rockers Roadshow. Reggae-orientated concert series tonight washes three acts at the Dolphin pub in Slough. They are Mighty Strypes, Natural Roots and Push, who break the monotony with funk rock.

10.30 Picture of Health. Mindful of the still suppressed official report on the dire dangers of eating too much fat, sugar and salt, this survey of the effects of the average British diet on the average British heart, is critical of the food industry and its profit motive. Diet and degenerative diseases are closely related.

11.15 Film: Repulsion (1965)* The censor wasn't too censorious when faced with Roman Polanski's horrific insight into insanity. Catherine Deneuve plays a sexually repressed manicurist, who locks herself away in a gloomy London flat, suffering hallucinations and finally murdering her boyfriend and her landlord (Patrick Wymark, with a cut-throat razor) when they try to get too near. Ian Hendry and John Fraser also appear in the Polish-born director's first English film.

1.10 Close.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.

6.10 Farming Today featuring the Royal Smithfield Show, London. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.

6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.50 Your Letters. 8.57 Weather; Travel.

9.00 News.

9.05 Desert Island Discs. Marvin Hamlisch (r).

9.45 Feedback. Your views.

10.00 News; International Assignment.

10.30 Morning Story: 'Burning Leaves and Other Things' by Jill Norris.

10.45 Daily Service.

11.00 News; Anyone Can Lose. Five ex-MPs talk frankly about losing their seats, and what they have done since (r).

11.48 Natural Selection.

12.00 News; You and Yours.

12.27 Top of the Form. 12.55 Weather.

1.00 The World at One: News.

1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.

2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Cardiff.

3.00 News; Sybil or 'The Two Nations' by Benjamin Disraeli.†

4.00 News; Just After Four.

4.10 The Spirit of Kitty Hawk. The story of some of the people who have made aviation history (4).

4.40 Story Time: 'A Kind of Treason' by George Macbeth (7).

5.00 News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather.

6.00 The Six o'clock News; Financial Report.

6.30 Going Places. The world of travel and transport.

7.00 News.

7.05 The Archers.

7.20 Pick of the Week. Programme highlights with Margaret Howard.†

8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.

8.30 Any Questions? from Larbert, Scotland.

9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.

9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Tonight's topics include O Beloved Kids (Kipling's letters to his children); The Complete Lyrics of Cole Porter; the American documentary about a nuclear holocaust, The Day After; and New Alston and Bintley Ballets. 9.59 Weather.

10.00 The World Tonight: News.

10.35 Week Ending. A satirical review.†

11.00 A Book at Bedtime. 'Ask Mama' bu R. S. Surtees (5).

11.14 The Financial World Tonight.

11.30 Today in Parliament.

11.45 Angus McDermid in the BBC Sound Archives.

12.00 News.

12.10 Weather.

12.15 Shipping Forecast. ENGLAND VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools. 1.55 Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools. 11.00-12.00 Study On 4: 11.00 Digame! 11.30 The Training Revolution. 12.30-1am Schools.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.

7.05 Morning Concert: On records. Part one. Music by Holst, Rubbra, Schubert, and Suk. Part two at 8.05.†

8.00 News.

8.05 Morning Concert: On records. Part two. Music by Lindblad, Atterberg, Brahms and Myaskovsky.†

9.00 News.

9.05 This Week's Composers: Franz Krommer and Jan Vorisak. On records.†

10.00 Arnold Bax Centenary: Dennis Simons (violin) and Keith Swallow (piano) play the Violin Sonata No 3.†

10.30 Ulster Orchestra: conducted by Barry Wordsworth. Seamus O'Brien's Overture; and Stanford's Symphony in F minor, Op 28 (the Irish).†

11.25 Hilliard Ensemble. Music of the Early Tudor Court. By Sheryngham, Philips, Cornyish and Cooper.†

12.10 BBC Philharmonic Orchestra at the Bratislava Festival: with Eduard Gratsch (violin) and Natalia Schachowska (cello). Part one. Walton's overture Scapino; and Brahms's Concerto in A minor for violin, cello and orchestra.†

1.00 News.

1.05 Six Continents: Foreign radio.

1.20 BBC Philharmonic Concert: part two. Dvorak's Symphony No 6.†

2.10 Schubert: piano recital by Martino Tirimo. Hungarian Melody, D 817; and the Sonata in A major, D 959.†

3.00 Haydn and Field: with the New Irish Chamber Orchestra and John O'Conor (piano). Haydn's Symphony No 22 (The Philosopher) and Field's Piano Conc No 6 in C major.†

4.00 Choral Evensong: from Guildford Cathedral.†

4.55 News.

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: another of David Hoult's selections of music.†

6.30 Music for Guitar: recital by David Russell. Includes Rodrigo's Invocation and Dance; Leo Brouwer's Fugue No 1; and Gilbert Biberian's Three Pieces. Also, Turina's Sonata.†

7.00 Chopin: Etudes, Op 10, played by Evelyne Brancart.†

7.30 Sir Adrian Boult Memorial Concert: Part one. Sir John Pritchard conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in tonight's tribute to the conductor who died earlier this year. Direct from the Royal Festival Hall. The concert opens with Parry's Blest Pair of Sirens, for chorus and orchestra, followed by Elgar's Enigma variations.†

8.10 Hope for the Future: A series for Advent (2). Talk by the Rev Richard Harries, Dean of King's College, London.

8.30 Boult Memorial Concert: part two. Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde, with Janet Baker (mezzo) and Hermann Winkler (tenor).†

9.45 Third Opinion: Last in the series of weekly discussions of national and international issues. With the economist Peter Oppenheimer, and Sir Donald Maitland, and others.

10.30 Mozart: the String Quartet in D minor, K421.†

11.00 The Complete Webern: The BBC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by David Atherton. Six Pieces, Op 6 (original version).†

11.15 News. Until 11.18.

Radio 2

5.00am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00pm Music While You Work.† 12.30 Gloria Hunniford.† 2.02 Sports Desk. 2.30 Ed Stewart.† 3.02 Sports Desk. 4.00 David Hamilton.† 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn† including 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 7.30 Male Voice Choirs Competition (new series) Twenty-four choirs from various parts of Britain compete to find the Radio Wales Male Voice Choir of the Year.† 8.15 Friday Night Is Music Night direct from the Hippodrome, Golders Green, London. Songs from Pat Whitmore, Alan Fairs and The John McCarthy Singers. 9.30 The Mike Sammes Singers (s). 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 It Sticks Out Half A Mile. A seaside saga starring John Le Mesurier, Ian Lavender, Bill Pertwee. 10.30 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Night Owls (s) with Dave Gelly. 2.00-5.00 Liz Allen (s) presents You and the Night and the Music.

Radio 1

6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Gary Davies. 4.30 Peter Powell's Select-A-Disc. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 9.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show.† VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2 5.00am With Radio 2 10.00pm With Radio 1 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Breakthrough. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The English Air. 8.30 Modern English Poetry. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty Four Hours. 1.30 Radio Theatre. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Sarah and Company. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four hours. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Clinging to the Wreckage. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Ulster Defence Regiment. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Classical Record Review. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 A Closer Look. 3.50 Recording of the Week. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Kings of Jazz. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

BBC1

Wales: 12.57-1.0pm/3.53-3.55 News of Wales Headlines. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Wales Today. 10.15-10.30 Sportfolio. 10.30-11.20 Week In Week Out. 11.20-11.21 News of Wales Headlines. 11.21-12.57am Film: Impasse. 12.57 Weather, Close. Scotland: 12.55-1.0pm Scottish News. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scotland: Sixty Minutes. 9.25-9.55 Double Bill. 9.55-10.27 Agenda. 10.27-10.30 Scottish News Summary. 10.30-11.20 Knots Landing. 11.20-12.50am The Late Film: Sunday Too Far Away (1974) starring Jack Thompson. 12.50 Weather; Close. Northern Ireland: 12.57-1.0pm/3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News Headlines and Weather. 10.50-1.0am Film: This Sporting Life (1963) starring Richard Harris, Rachel Roberts. 1.0 Northern Ireland News Headlines, weather, Close. England: 5.53pm Regional news magazines. 10.15-10.45 EAST (Norwich) – Weekend. Midlands (Birmingham) – Malc Up-Market. Humorist Malcolm Stent. NORTH (Leeds) – Goodnight Campers. Filey, after Butlins. NORTH EAST (Newcastle) – Coast to Coast: The Return of the Geordie Jocks. Veterans of the Black Watch battalion. NORTH WEST (Manchester) – Lynda Lee's People: Flea markets in Warburton and Bolton. SOUTH (Suthampton) – Southern Life: The Art of Alex Herbage. SOUTH WEST (Plymouth) – The Cornish in America. WEST (Bristol) – Day Out: Chew Valley. 12.30am Close.

S4C

Starts 2.20pm Stori Sbri. 2.35 Interval. 3.10 Book 4. 3.55 Good Food Show. 4.20 Countdown. 4.50 Lowri A'r Capten. 5.00 Campeto. 5.30 Bands of Gold. 6.25 Addams Family. 6.55 Gair Yn Ei Bryd. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Sion a Sian. 8.00 Pobol y Cwm. 8.30 Pawb A'i Fys. 9.15 Paul Hogan Show. 9.45 Soap. 10.15 Film: Good and Bad at Games. 12.10am Cur Lives. 12.50 Gair Yn Ei Bryd, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

ULSTER As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Day ahead. 10.30 Larry the Lamb. 10.40 Crazy World of Sport. 11.05 Cartoon. 11.20-11.35 Sally and Jake. 12.30pm-1.00 Hands. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.00 Film: Operation Cross Eagles (Richard Conte). 3.30-4.00 Paint Along With Nancy. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 Good Evening, Ulster. 6.45-7.00 Advice. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Sportcast. 11.05 Darts. 12.00 News, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 10.25am Making of the Raiders of the Lost Ark 11.10 Emu's World 11.30-11.35 Professor Kitzel 12.30pm-1.00 Whose Baby? 1.20-1.30 Granada Reports 2.00 Film: Life is a Circus* (Crazy Gang) 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Beverly Hillbillies 6.00 News 6.05-7.00 Weekend 10.30 House Calls 11.00 Darts 12.00 Film: Little Mother 1.5am Closedown.

STV As London except: 10.25am Wild Canada. 11.20-11.35 Wattoo Wattoo. 12.30pm-1.00 Hedgehog. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Jet Storm* (Richard Attenborough). 3.30-4.00 One of the Boys. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear here. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Darts. 12.00 Late Call. 12.05am That's Hollywood. 12.30 Closedown.

TSW As London except: 10.25am Land of the Dragon 10.50 Joe 90 11.15-11.35 The Duel 12.30pm-1.00 Retirement Report 1.20-1.30 News 2.00-3.30 Film: Operation Cross Eagles (Richard Conte) 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm 6.00 Today South West 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead 10.35 Benson 11.05 Darts 12.05am House Calls 12.30 Postscript, Closedown

CHANNEL As London except: 12.00-12.10pm We'll tell you a story. 12.30-1.00 Retirement Report. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Operation Cross Eagles. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.00 What's On Where. 10.35 Benson. 11.05 Darts. 12.05am House Calls. 12.30 Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 10.25am-12.00 Film: Topper* (Cary Grant). 12-30pm-1.00 Fire of Harmony. 1.20 News. 1.30 Hear Here. 1.45-3.30 Film: Silent Night, Lonely Night (Lloyd Bridges). 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.30 Green Shoes: (George Cole) 11.00 Darts. 12.00 Film: Keefer (William Conrad). 1.25am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25am-9.30 First Thing. 10.25 Space 1999. 11.20-11.35 Educational Short. 12.30pm-1.00 Mickie Toon Fiddler. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Third Visitor (Sonia Dresdel). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Dragnet. 11.00 Darts. 12.00 News, Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 10.25am Stan and Ollie* 10.45-11.35 Space 1999 12.30pm-1.00 Tayside 1.20-1.30 News 2.00 Film: Odd Job Man (David Jason) 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes 6.00 Lookaround 6.30-7.00 Survival of the Fittest 10.30 Wintersport 11.00 Darts 12.00 News, Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 10.25am Cartoon. 10.45-11.35 Aldabra. 12.30pm-1.00 Hands. 2.00-3.30 Film: Lost in the Desert. 5.15-5.45 Whose Baby? 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 10.30 Cross Question. 11.05 Darts. 12.00 Film: Hell's Island. 1.35am Feast for Advent, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 10.25am Fire of Harmony. 10.50 Flying Kiwi. 11.15-11.35 That Girl. 12.30pm-1.00 Retirement Report. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Operation Cross Eagles (Richard Conte). 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-7.00 Calendar and Sport. 10.30 Newhart. 11.00 Darts. 12.00 Corries and other Folk. 12.30am Closedown.

TVS As London except: 10.25am-11.35 Film: Fighting Stock. 12.30pm-1.00 Full Life. 1.20 News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 About Britain. 2.05 Old Wives' Tales. 2.10 Film: My Favourite Spy (Bob Hope). 3.53-4.00 Sportsbreak. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 10.30 Just Williams. 11.00 Darts. 12.00 Paris By Night. 12.30am Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 10.25am Stan and Ollie 10.50 Vicky the Viking 11.15-11.35 Our Incredible World 12.30pm-1.00 Suomi 1.20-1.30 News and Lookaround 2.00-3.30 Film: Carry On Again Doctor 5.15-5.45 Silver Spoons 6.00 Northern Life 6.20-7.00 Weekend Lift-Off 10.32 Robin's Nest 11.00 Darts 12.00 Portrait of a Legend 12.30am Three's Company, Closedown.

HTV As London except: 10.25am Russia. 11.10-12.00 Beyond Westworld. 12.30pm-1.00 Hands. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Love Thy Neighbour. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 So What's Your Problem? 10.30 Press Call. 11.00 Darts. 12.00 Benson. 12.30am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV except: 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Another Window on the World.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

Request by Syria for Soviet troops

Continued from page 1

attackers – Shia Muslims in the slums of Haya Selum and Druze militiamen in the mountains to the east – with tank rounds and Dragon anti-tank missiles.

At least two buildings apparently used by snipers were destroyed by Marine gunfire, and one report said that a group of Shia Muslim Militiamen later raised a white flag to stop the fighting.

Meanwhile in Tripoli, in northern Lebanon, Palestinian officials loyal to Mr Yassir Arafat implied that French and Italian warships may escort the four Greek vessels that are to evacuate up to 4,000 PLO guerrillas from the city. The Palestinians will sail under a United Nations flag but now fear that the Israelis will try to intercept the little fleet after the PLO's claim of responsibility for the bombing of a bus in Jerusalem this week in which four civilians, including two children, were killed.

US to lift Argentine arms ban

Continued from page 1

Nato ministerial council session in Brussels.

Arms embargoes were imposed on both Argentina and Chile during the Carter Administration because of the serious human rights violations taking place in both countries.

Although Congress approved a request by the Reagan Administration in 1981 for the arms embargo on Argentina to be lifted, this was done on condition that the President certified that the Buenos Aires Government was making progress in human rights.

The State Department cited seven areas where there had been improvement in human rights in Argentina, including the holding of free elections, *release of political prisoners*, lifting of restriction of political parties, trades unions and the press and an ending of the state of siege.

But he said one major human rights issue still to be resolved involved Argentina's failure to account for the thousands of people who disappeared during the "dirty war" under earlier military dictatorships.

Deserted village mourns vanishing bus

Even now the devastation is begun,
And half the business of destruction done;
Even now, methinks, as pondering here I stand,
I see the rural virtues leave the land.

The Deserted Village by Oliver Goldsmith

By Michael Horsnell

The roses will bloom as usual next summer in cottage gardens in the Norfolk village of Swanton Morley but if the Council for the Protection of Rural England is right, more as a memorial than a demonstration of the virtues of country life.

The village (population about 1,500), from which Abraham Lincoln's ancestors emigrated to America in 1637, is, according to many of its inhabitants as well as the CPRE, facing its demise as a thriving community.

Swanton Morley is one of 72 Norfolk villages threatened with losing its bus service, a vital link to the market town of Dereham, four miles away, which provides shops, doctors, a hospital and schooling for its country cousins.

About a third of the villagers have no car and more than half have only limited access to one (when the breadwinner is not using it to drive to work), so that many people depend on the bus's five daily trips to Dereham and weekly service to Norwich.

Next week Norfolk county council is expected to ratify its transportation sub-committee's decision to limit its subsidy to the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company to £500,000 a year. Eastern Counties says it needs £1.3m to maintain present services and adds that as well as the 72 villages losing their buses, another 50 will be deprived of commuter services, with the loss of 85 jobs in all.

Council chiefs say they hope private operators and community buses will fill some of the gaps, but Mr Dawson Williams, general manager of Eastern Counties, dismisses this as a forlorn hope.

He said: "Previous cuts in passenger miles have not been taken over by private operators and neither would they this time. We cannot keep up loss-making services, so communities will find themselves deprived and isolated."

A meeting at the House of Commons between Eastern Counties executives and Norfolk's eight Conservative MPs earlier this week, failed to inspire any promises of parliamentary support, so the last bus to Swanton Morley will arrive at the village Post Office from Dereham at 14.46 on New Year's Eve.

"It is ridiculous", Mrs Peggy Carrick, *president* of the local Friendship Club for the over 60s said.

"The bus service is so important because not *everyone* has a car and an old person cannot walk four miles to Dereham to see the doctor. Some people will really be isolated."

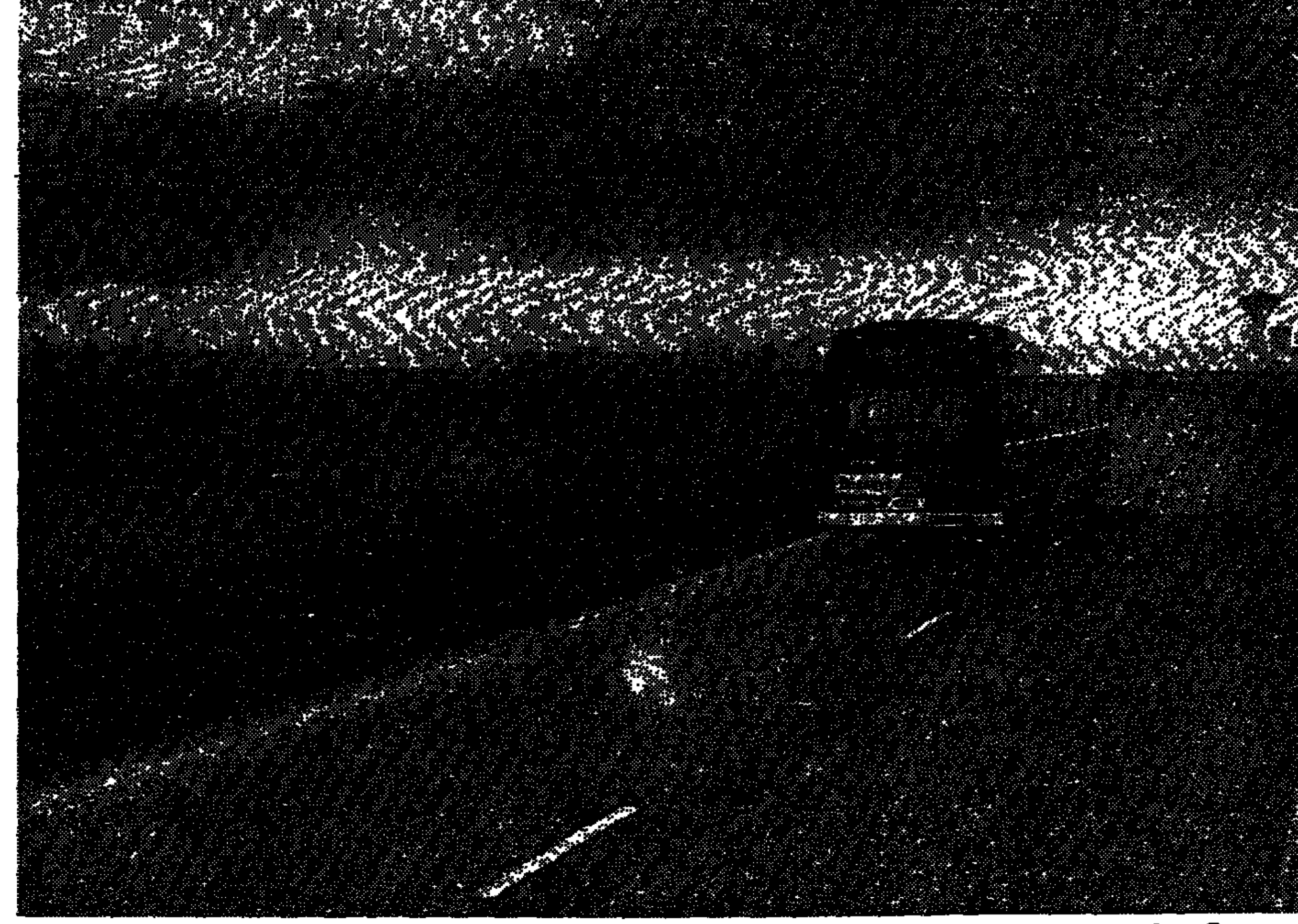
Mrs Louise Battle, a housewife aged 28 with two children, said: "How am I supposed to get the shopping? By bike? I use the bus twice a week to get into Dereham and I am completely dependent on it. It makes me very angry. I cannot afford a car and I want my independence, so I don't want to beg for lifts."

Swanton Morley, a *picturesque* community with two small shops, two public houses and a primary school, is probably facing its greatest crisis since modern farming techniques deprived many of its menfolk of their labour in the fields.

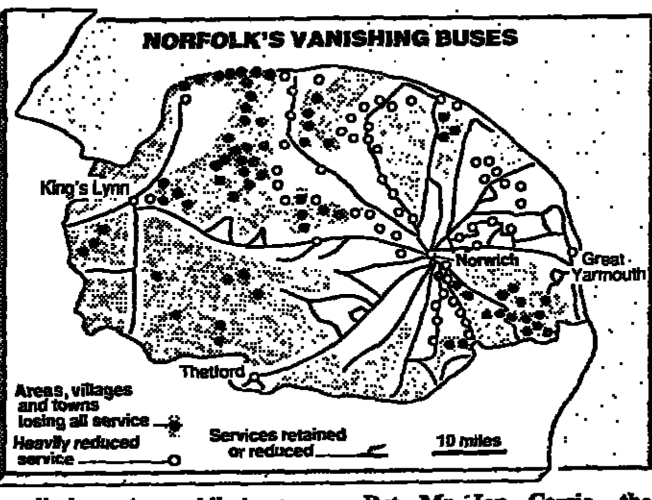
Villagers want to know why Norfolk is prepared to spend only £1.44 per person a year on transport subsidies, compared with a national average of £3.15.

But Mr Ian Corsie, the county surveyor, said last night: "I should not have thought our subsidies are out of line with our rural neighbours. We are concerned that some villages will be isolated, but we believe there is substantial scope for small private operators and unconventional services like social car schemes."

(Photographs: Brian Harris)







Disappearing into the sunset: the fated bus from Swanton Morley to Norwich (above) and Mrs Louise Battle (left), who is worrying about having to use her bicycle

Frank Johnson in the Commons

It's that word again on the wireless

Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday shocked people listening to Prime Minister's questions on the radio by using THAT word. the word: fascist.

Until her outburst the word had been considered so boring that it can only be used on Channel 4. Even then, it is confined to documentary programmes and discussions about virtually any country allied to the United States. Normally it is only used when any children who might be potential viewers are asleep. So boring are such programmes, however, that many adults who might be potential viewers are often asleep too.

The word escaped Mrs Thatcher's lips when Mr Fergus Montgomery, one of her backbenchers, asked her whether she had noted "the disgraceful scenes by a left wing rent-a-mob to prevent a coalition of Conservatives and Liberals taking control (at a meeting of the council of the London Borough of Brent the night before). As the Leader of the Opposition took so long to condemn violence on the picket line at Warrington, will he now condemn violence by members of his party in Brent?"

In reply, the Prime Minister, in condeming the violence, referred to "the fascist left".

Admirable though her sentiments no doubt were, it was sad to hear her using the word which her opponents had made the most tedious in the language. Presumably she thought it great fun to use against the left the word that the left had for years used against the Army, the police, the Israelis, the headmasters' conference and herself. But it was very boring of her none the less.

A few moments later, Mrs Thatcher used the word again. Neither Mr Montgomery nor herself had succeeded in getting a condemnation of the scenes at Brent out of Mr Kinnock. The Leader of the Opposition rose, but only to change the subject. He asked a routine question about the economy. She gave a routine answer. In due course, another Tory, Mr Timothy Eggar, said that his constituents would take Mr Kinnock's silence "as condoning the actions last night".

"The events in Brent were a disgrace to democracy", the Prime Minister replied. Then, remembering that it had gone down very well with her backbenchers the first time, she added that the events were also "a reflection of the true nature of the *fascist left*".

Later, Mr Joseph Ashton, the Labour backbencher, sought to put a question about Mr David Hart. He had written an article in *The Times* about the need to "privatize" the National Health Service. The paper had described him as "a political adviser". Mr Ashton said that he was a political adviser to the Prime Minister.

What was she doing consorting with a political adviser who wanted to do such a terrible thing, was the gist of his question. Furthermore, Mr Hart had once gone bankrupt. By a leap of logic, Mr Ashton seemed to be arguing that this disqualified him from saying *anything right* about the National Health Service.

At least, this seemed to be the point that Mr Ashton was making. But the Speaker interrupted him to say that his question was out or order. It emerged that it was out of order because Mr Ashton had not mentioned Enfield. Mr Ashton looked baffled.

Labour members shouted advice to him as to how to get his question into order. Mr Ashton looked more baffled. Tories shouted to him to sit down. Mr Ashton protested to the Speaker.

After a while we all realized that technically we were on a question asking Mrs Thatcher to pay a visit to Enfield North (Mr Eggar's constituency). By the time this was sorted out, we had run out of time for Prime Minister's questions.

Mr Ashton protested that the Tories had prevented him, by their noise, from asking about the future of health service workers in Enfield if Mrs Thatcher had this Mr Hart as her adviser (an ingenious recovery). The Speaker said that, even though the time had run out, he would allow him to put the question because it was Christmas (a surrealist touch).

Mr Ashton put the question again, but by that time we had all lost interest.

Inevitably, at some point in these exchanges, Labour members started shouting at the Tories: "Fascist right." Some of us fell to musing: what of the ordinary, decent, hard-working segment of British opinion represented by the fascist centre?

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Anne, Colonel in Chief, Royal Signals, attends a briefing at the School of Signals, Blandford Camp, Dorset, 10.

New exhibitions

French prints and drawings, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Jan. 8).

Recent works by Gerald Gadd: Landscapes, Geoffrey Huband: Maritime, Frances Cripwell and Moira Williams: Flora and fauna, Gallery 45, 45/46 Bridge Street, Hereford; Mon to Sat *10 to 5.30*; closed Sun (ends Dec 24).

Music

Concert by the Farnaby Brass Ensemble, West Oxfordshire Technical College, Witney, Oxfordshire.

Recital by Margaret Campbell (flute), Kelso High School, Kelso, 7.45.

Concert by the students from the Royal College of Music, North Kesteven Music Club, Usher Gallery, Lindum Road, Lincoln, 7.30

Carol Services

Christmas concert by the York Concert Orchestra, St. Sampson's Church, Church Street, York, 7.30.

Christmas concert by the Doncaster Schools Concert Band, *William Appleby Music Centre*, Danum Road, Doncaster, 7

Christmas concert by New Opera Group, Friends Meeting House, Hartshead, Sheffield, 30.

People's Carol Service with the Greater Manchester Police Band, St. Ann's Church, Manchester, 1.15.

General

Southern Country Craft Market, the Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells, 10 to 4.

Seventh Annual Edinburgh Winter Antiques Fair, Roxburghe Hotel, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, 11 to 8, *tomorrow 11 to 5.*

Exhibitions in progress

Picture Derby – photographs of Derby from 1900 to 1983, Derby Museum and *Art Gallery*, The Strand, Derby; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, closed *Sun* and *Mon (ends Dec 30)*.

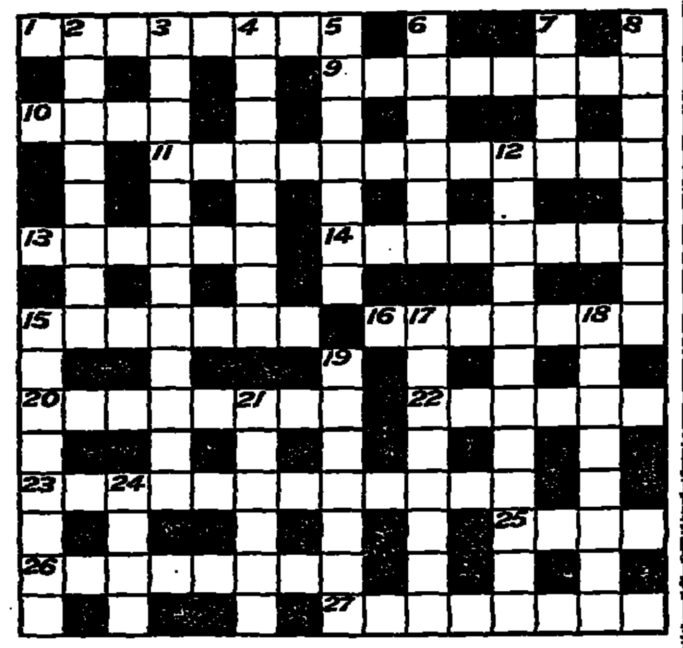
Costume Designs by Clive Hicks-Jenkins for the New Theatre production of the Pantomime *Humpty Dumpty*, Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square, Newport, Gwent; Mon to *Thurs 10 to 5.30, Fri 10 to 4.30, Sat* 9.40 to 4, closed Sun (ends Feb 4).

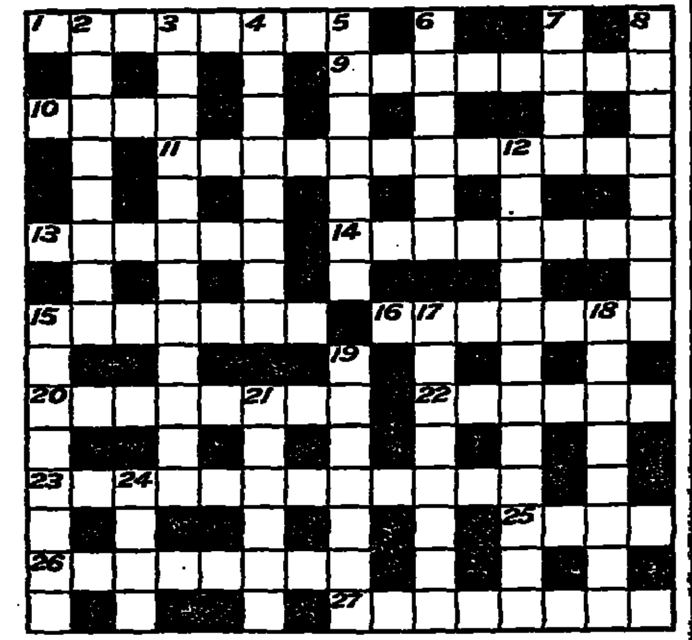
Sainsbury's Images for Today: Winners of competition for British artists, Cartwright Hall, Lister Park, Bradford;, Tues to Sun 10 to 5, closed Mon (ends Jan 8).

Works by Welsh artists, Oriel, Welsh Arts Council Gallery, 53 *Charles Street, Cardiff; Mon to Sat 9* to 5.30, closed Sun (ends Jan 7).

A collection for Christmas – original and rare work by English artists and craftsmen (inc. special toys); Falcon House Gallery, Swan Street, Boxford, Suffolk; Tues to Sat *10.30 to 6, Sun 2 to 6, closed Mon* (ends Jan 29).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,305

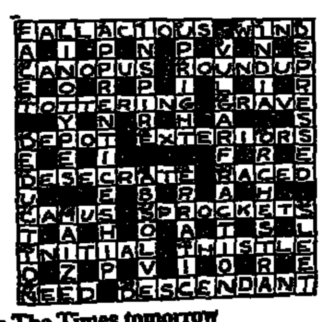




ACROSS
1 Question scope for drinking in Bath, for example (4-4).
9 Go-ahead king follows new call (3-5).
10 One of the auld folk in Scotland (4).
11 Prunella comes to cock-fight concealed by line of bushes (5-7).
13 Poor liar to be source of intelligence for Shylock (6).
14 Give new meaning to time-worn advice – excellent! (8).
15 Servicewoman has a way with the old invader (7).
16 Start to advance with Brown and his school-friend side by side (7).
20 This Society bears mark of its foreign urban origin (3, 5).
22 Dig up the old philosopher (6).
23 Libel Green at odds with church militancy (12).
25 Make cash payment on this (4).
26 Man of no importance may change *direction* – on engagement? (3-5).
27 Joined up loose tiles in the end (8).

DOWN
1 To organize labour for the workhouse is easy initially (8).
2 Making father go to hospital I [illegible] morbid (12).
4 [illegible]l military men in the open [illegible]
5 Formed illegal army in Portuguese territory (7).
6 Went off by toboggan, skirting rising river (6).
7 Look out for one said to be a mole (4).
8 Hill-top route may be intimidating (8).
12 Snacks for 4th Sunday in Lent (12).
15 Tough defender of book bound to endure (8).
17 Plant from French well raised in *Los Angeles set-up* (8).
18 Once a Staff Officer met me holding one! (8).
19 Real USA product, like a straight-edge normally (2,1,4).
21 Make Giro transfer over two quarters for wild parties (6).
24 Book ring's trade mark (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,304



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow
CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 12

Food prices

Over the past 5 years consumption of *exotic fruit* and *vegetables* has risen enormously, according to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau. Since 1978 imports of avocados have risen by 89 per cent, mangoes by 115 per cent and pawpaws by 299 per cent. Prices have thus come down generally: avocados 25-50p each, kiwi fruit *20-28p*, mangoes *70p-£1*, small pineapples 50-80p. Sharon-*fruit* from Israel, a non-astringent version of the persimmon, which can be eaten with skin, sell at 20-26p each. Spanish almeria grapes, at 34-40p a lb, are cheapest of the four varieties around. Kumquats from Morocco and Carmel, a grape-size citrus fruit, are *£1.50-£2.00* a lb. Jerusalem artichokes at 30-40p a lb, aubergines from 50-60p a lb, fennel at 35-45p a lb, are all good buys.

Beef prices remain steady – with topside, silverside and thick flank *£1.90-£2.30* a lb and a boneless brisket £1.32-£1.65 a lb. Pork prices are similar to last week; boneless shoulder 92p-£1.30 and loin chops £1.18-£1.39 a lb. Although lamb prices are higher this week as supplies are reduced, they are *cheaper than at this time last year.* Whole legs range from £1.48-£1.60 a lb. Whole shoulders are 84p-£1.00 a lb and loin chops £1.34-£1.88.

Marks & Spencer have reduced the price of their chicken packs – drums, thighs and breast – by 10 pence a lb. Their fresh and frozen turkeys are 89 pence a lb. They also have a delicious breast of turkey, stuffed with fresh chestnuts and weighing 3lb-5¼lb, for £1.89 a lb. Dewhursts have duck at 74 pence a *pound for birds up to 4lb 15oz and* 78 pence a pound for heavier birds. They also have fresh turkeys and geese and customers are advised to order now for Christmas.

Last posting

The Post Office recommends *Saturday, December 17 as the last* posting date for second class mail and parcels, and Tuesday, December 20 for first class. British Telecom remind subscribers that calls at Christmas to Australia, New Zealand, Hongkong and other *countries in the Far East* and the Pacific will only be on the cheaper rate between midnight and 7am and between 3pm and 8pm, when a 10-minute call will cost £7.44. At all other times the standard rate applies.

Anniversaries

Births: **John Milton**, London, 1608; **Johann Winckelmann**, art historian, Stendal, Germany, 1717; **George Grossmith**, comedian, *singer and author*, with Weedon Grossmith, of *Diary of a Nobody*, London, 1847; **Joseph Stalin** (new style Dec 21), Gori, Georgia, Transcaucasia, 1879.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Sex Equality Bill, second reading.

The Papers

Hiding behind Congress, the *Reagan Administration has again* rejected pleas to increase America's aid to the poorest countries, the New York Times points out. At negotiations in Paris about expanding the *International Development* Association, the World Bank's soft-*loan affiliate*, the *United States has* decided to offer $750m a year for three years. The paper says: "That is slightly less than it contributed over the last four years, and much less *than is needed.* Since its creation in 1960 this valuable agency has loaned $30 billion to dozens of desperate countries for up to 50 years at no interest. Its clients are the poorest of the poor, nations with per capita incomes of less than $730 a year. *Their needs are so great and* their economies so weak they cannot afford conventional loans. India was long sustained by IDA loans until it could feed itself. *Mankind* benefits from achievements of that magnitude. In the 1979 replenishment, the Carter Administration pledged $3.2 billion over three years. President Reagan stretched *that* over four years, reducing contributions to $800m a *year.* Some of the 32 other sponsor governments made up the shortfall, but expressed their contempt for America's stinginess by barring its use for the purchase of American goods."

Roads

Midlands: A14: Lane closures on *Huntingdon* bypass. A45: Road-works on Coventry - Daventry road at Fosse Crossing, Warwickshire. A47: Temporary signals at eastern end of Dereham bypass.

Wales and West: M4: Lane closures at junction 32 (Cardiff) and junction 34 (Llantrisant); delays. *M4:* Lane closures for bridge inspection and repairs between junction 21 and junction 22 across the Severn Bridge, affecting both carriageways. A368: Traffic restrictions on West Harptree – Churchill road at Burrington Combe.

North: A628: Temporary signals *at Woodhead, north-east of Glossop*, Derbyshire. A19: One-way westbound at Mandale interchange, Middlesbrough, Haythorpe Drive to Levick Crescent; diversion. A1: Felton bypass on River Coquet Bridge, Northumberland, closes northbound; *only one lane open* with temporary traffic signals.

Scotland: A72: Single-lane traffic with lights west of A703 junction at Peebles. A94: Single-lane traffic in Coupar Angus. A7: Single-lane traffic with lights at junction with A699, south side of Selkirk.

Information supplied by AA

Top films

Top box office films in London:
1 (1) The Jungle Book/Mickey's Christmas Carol
2 (-) *Rear Window*
3 (3) La Traviata
4 (2) Videodrome
5 (4) Octopussy
6 (7) Educating Rita
7 (6) Zelig
8 (8) Betrayed
9 (5) Cujo
10 (9) *Finally Sunday!*

Top five in the provinces:
1 Star Chamber
2 Videodrome
3 *War Games*
4 Tootsie/Kramer vs. Kramer
5 Educating Rita

Compiled by *Screen International*

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.64	1.56
Austria Sch	28.80	27.20
Belgium Fr	83.50	79.50
Canada $	1.85	1.78
Denmark Kr	14.78	14.08
Finland Mkk	8.71	8.31
France Fr	12.26	11.76
Germany DM	4.08	3.89
Greece Dr	161.00	151.00
Hongkong $	11.60	11.00
Ireland Pt	1.30	1.25
Italy Lira	2450.00	2340.00
Japan Yen	351.00	333.00
Netherlands Gld	4.57	4.34
Norway Kr	11.45	10.85
Portugal Esc	197.00	187.00
South Africa Rd	1.80	1.67
Spain Pta	233.75	223.75
Sweden Kr	12.00	11.40
Switzerland Fr	3.27	3.10
USA $	1.48	1.43
Yugoslavia Dnr	219.00	209.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 340.7.

London: The *FT* index closed up 6.6 at 760.2.

Weather

A depression will cross Northern England overnight with a cold, showery northerly airstream becoming established over the United Kingdom.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, E England, East Anglia: Mainly cloudy, rain dying out, bright intervals with showers turning to snow later; wind N fresh becoming strong; max temp 5C to 7C (41-45F).

Central S, SW, central N England, E, W Midlands, Channel *Islands, S Wales: Showers becom*ing wintry later, sunny periods developing; wind NW to N moderate becoming fresh; max temp 6C to 8C (43-46F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Rather cloudy, showers turning *wintry with some sunny intervals* developing; wind N fresh to strong; max temp 5C (41F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Some bright intervals, snow showers, prolonged at times with drifting; *wind NE strong to gale; max temp* 2C to 3C (36-37F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Snow showers on Saturday dying out overnight; further outbreaks of sleet or snow spreading from W on Sunday. Remaining cold *generally*.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind SW veering NW *strong or gale; sea rough or very rough. Straits of Dover,* English Channel (E): Wind SW strong or gale veering NW decreasing fresh; sea very rough becoming moderate. St Georges Channel, Irish Sea: Wind N fresh or strong locally gale; sea moderate to very rough.

Sun rises: 7.53am *Sun sets:* 3.52pm

Moon rises: 11.56am *Moon sets:* 8.27pm

First Quarter December 12

Lighting-up time

London 4.22 pm to 7.24 am
Bristol 4.32 pm to 7.34 am
Edinburgh 4.09 pm to 8.02 am
Manchester 4.20 pm to 7.43 am
Penzance 4.50 pm to 7.40 am

London

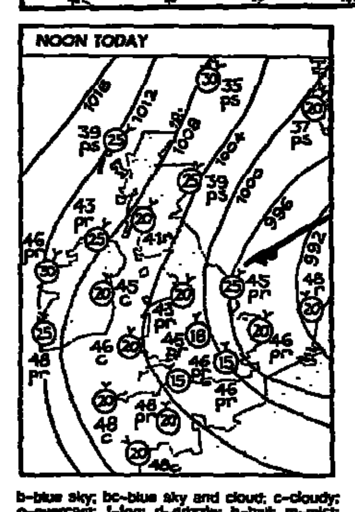
Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F); *min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity:* 6 pm, 96 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.13in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,013.2 millibars, *falling*. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

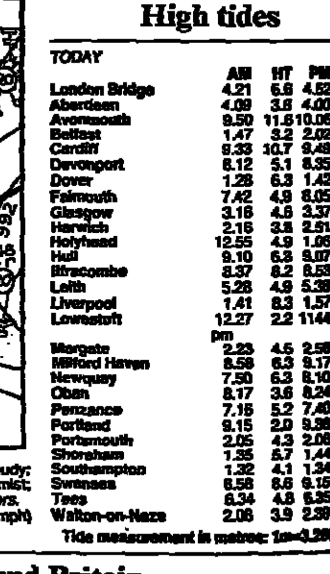
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Colwyn Bay 14C (57F); lowest day max: Anvil Green 8C (46F); highest rainfall: Mumbles 0.59in; highest sunshine: Leuchars 0.6hrs.

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NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)





NOON TODAY

b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

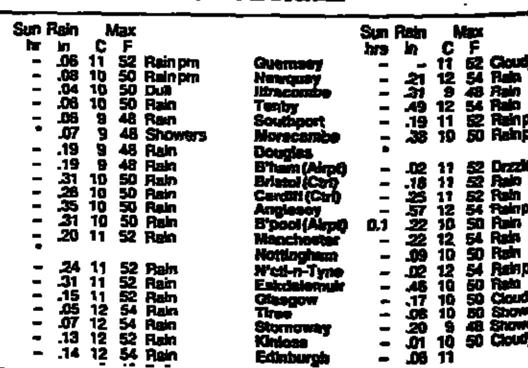
High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.21	6.6	4.62	6.6
Aberdeen	4.09	3.6	4.00	3.9
Avonmouth	9.50	11.6	10.06	11.0
Belfast	1.47	3.2	2.02	3.5
Cardiff	9.33	10.7	9.49	10.2
Devonport	8.12	5.1	8.35	4.8
Dover	1.28	6.3	1.42	6.0
Falmouth	7.42	4.9	8.05	4.6
Glasgow	3.16	4.6	3.37	5.0
Harwich	2.16	3.8	2.51	3.6
Holyhead	12.55	4.9	1.06	5.1
Hull	9.10	6.8	9.07	6.7
Ilfracombe	8.37	8.2	8.58	7.7
Leith	5.28	4.9	5.38	4.9
Liverpool	1.41	8.3	1.57	8.5
Lowestoft	12.27	2.2	1144	2.5
	pm			
Margate	2.23	4.6	2.58	4.4
Milford Haven	8.58	6.3	9.17	5.9
Newquay	7.50	6.3	8.10	5.9
Oban	8.17	3.6	8.24	3.3
Penzance	7.16	5.2	7.40	4.8
Portland	9.15	2.0	9.38	1.6
Portsmouth	2.05	4.3	2.08	4.2
Shoreham	1.35	5.7	1.44	5.5
Southampton	1.32	4.1	1.34	4.0
Swansea	8.58	8.6	9.15	8.2
Tees	6.34	4.8	6.35	5.0
Walton-on-Naze	2.06	3.9	2.38	3.9

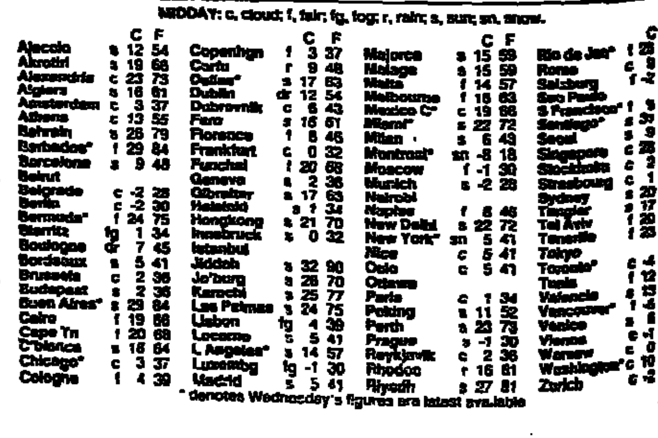
Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	-	.06	11	52	Rain pm	Guernsey	-	-	11	52	Cloudy
Bridlington	-	.08	10	50	Rain pm	Newquay	-	.21	12	54	Rain
Cromer	-	.04	10	50	Dull	Ilfracombe	-	.31	9	48	Rain
Lowestoft	-	.08	10	50	Rain	Tenby	-	.49	12	54	Rain
Clacton	-	.05	9	48	Rain	Southport	-	.19	11	52	Rain pm
Margate	•	.07	9	48	Showers	Morecambe	-	.38	10	50	Rain pm
Folkestone	-	.19	9	48	Rain	Douglas	•				
Hastings	-	.19	9	48	Rain	B'ham (Airpt)	-	.02	11	52	Drizzle pm
Eastbourne	-	.31	10	50	Rain	Bristol (Ctrl)	-	.18	11	52	Rain
Worthing	-	.28	10	50	Rain	Cardiff (Ctrl)	-	.25	11	52	Rain
Littlehmptn	-	.35	10	50	Rain	Anglesey	-	.57	12	54	Rain pm
Bognor R	-	.31	10	50	Rain	B'pool (Airpt)	0.1	.22	10	50	Rain
Southsea	-	.20	11	52	Rain	Manchester	-	.22	12	54	Rain
Shanklin	•					Nottingham	-	.09	10	50	Rain
Bournemth	-	.24	11	52	Rain	N'ctl-n-Tyne	-	.02	12	54	Rain pm
Poole	-	.31	11	52	Rain	Eskdalemuir	-	.46	10	50	Rain
Weymouth	-	.15	11	52	Rain	Glasgow	-	.17	10	50	Cloudy
Exmouth	-	.05	12	54	Rain	Tiree	-	.08	10	50	Showers
Torquay	-	.07	12	54	Rain	Stornoway	-	.20	9	48	Showers
Falmouth	-	.13	12	52	Rain	Kinloss	-	.01	10	50	Cloudy
Penzance	-	.14	12	54	Rain	Edinburgh	-	.06	11		

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	s	12	54	Copenhgn	f	3	37	Majorca	s	15	59	Rio de Jan*	f	26	79
Akrotiri	s	19	66	Corfu	r	9	48	Malaga	s	15	59	Rome	c	9	48
Alexandria	c	23	73	Dallas*	s	17	63	Malta	f	14	57	Salzburg	f	-2	28
Algiers	s	16	61	Dublin	dr	12	54	Melbourne	f	18	63	Sao Paulo			
Amsterdam	c	3	37	Dubrovnik	c	6	43	Mexico C*	c	19	66	S Francisco*	f	9	48
Athens	c	13	55	Faro	s	16	61	Miami*	s	22	72	Santiago*	s	30	86
Bahrain	s	26	79	Florence	f	8	46	Milan	s	6	43	Seoul	s	9	48
Barbados*	f	29	84	Frankfurt	c	0	32	Montreal*	sn	-8	18	Singapore	c	28	82
Barcelona	s	9	48	Funchal	f	20	68	Moscow	f	-1	30	Stockholm	c	2	36
Beirut				Geneva	s	2	36	Munich	s	-2	28	Strasbourg	c	1	34
Belgrade	c	-2	28	Gibraltar	s	17	63	Nairobi				Sydney	s	20	68
Berlin	c	-2	30	Helsinki	s	1	34	Naples	f	8	46	Tangier	s	17	63
Bermuda*	f	24	75	Hongkong	s	21	70	New Delhi	s	22	72	Tel Aviv	f	20	68
Biarritz	fg	1	34	Innsbruck	s	0	32	New York*	sn	5	41	Tenerife	f	23	73
Boulogne	dr	7	45	Istanbul				Nice	c	5	41	Tokyo			
Bordeaux	s	5	41	Jeddah	s	32	90	Oslo	c	5	41	Toronto*	c	-4	25
Brussels	c	2	36	Jo'burg	s	28	70	Ottawa				Tunis	f	12	54
Budapest	s	2	36	Karachi	s	25	77	Paris	c	1	34	Valencia	s	13	55
Buen Aires*	s	29	84	Las Palmas	s	24	75	Peking	s	11	52	Vancouver*	f	-5	23
Cairo	f	19	66	Lisbon	fg	4	39	Perth	s	23	73	Venice	s	6	43
Cape Tn	f	20	68	Locarno	s	5	41	Prague	s	-1	30	Vienna	c	-1	30
C'blanca	s	18	64	L Angeles*	s	14	57	Reykjavik	c	2	36	Warsaw	c	0	32
Chicago*	c	3	37	Luxembg	fg	-1	30	Rhodes	r	16	61	Washington*	c	10	50
Cologne	f	4	39	Madrid	s	5	41	Riyadh	s	27	81	Zurich	c	-2	28

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available